

# the chronicle

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## Tenants face 7.7pc rise in council rents

Thousands of council tenants in Dudley are facing an average increase in their rent of 7.7 per cent.

The rise, under new proposals, is the biggest in almost a decade for residents living in the borough's 24,000 council homes. The increase is the equivalent of an average £5.54 per week for tenants.

Council leaders say the proposed increase is calculated using the Government's formula based on inflation and the size and value of council properties. They said they were committed to looking at ways to reduce energy bills and offering advice to residents struggling to make ends meet.

Cabinet member Councillor Adrian Turner said: "Since 2002 our rent increases have been controlled by a central government formula. Despite this proposed increase of 7.7 per cent, our rents compare favourably with other local authorities.

"However, we are lobbying local MPs about the implications of a rent formula that is linked to inflation and the impact that it will have on local residents.

"We know times are difficult for people, and we are looking at ways of mitigating the increase by investigating ways we can invest in energy efficiency schemes to help keep tenants energy bills down, as well as providing energy advice and teaming up with the Citizens Advice Bureau and providing a debt advice service."

The proposed increase in rent will be discussed and set by councillors in February.

It comes as plans to give councils more control over the money they can spend on council homes are unveiled. Government funding will be based on an individual council's financial position rather than being based on assumption about its spending.

It will enable councils to make long-term financial plans which will enable them to manage major improvement programmes in the most efficient way.

## 100 face losing jobs at toy firm

A Kidderminster toy company which supplies trampolines and climbing frames to high street stores has gone into administration leaving around 100 workers facing possible redundancy.

Directors of Tube Plastics Ltd, better known as TP Activity Toys, have called in business recovery firm Geoffrey Martin, despite a turnover of £12 million this year.

The administrator hopes to sell the business, which has its headquarters in Zortech Avenue, on the Kidderminster and Stourport border, as a going concern.

They say "every effort" will be made to fulfil orders for Christmas – and has urged any customers awaiting deliveries to get in contact.

The company has been making toys for children for more than 50 years and supplies to firms including Tesco, John Lewis and Early Learning Centre.

Managing director Chris Martyn-Smith said: "It is a very sad day, and the directors want to thank the many employees who have been such an important part of building the business over the last 50 years."

A spokesman for Geoffrey Martin said the company's financial difficulties stemmed from increasing overheads and its inability to carry out a refinancing.

The administration does not include Muddy Puddles, a subsidiary of TP which supplies children's outdoor clothing which the firm acquired in 2009.

## Myrtle the mutt puts her footings into it

Myrtle the dog got in a pickle after she went for a walk and became stuck fast in wet cement. The five-year-old Clumber Spaniel wandered onto the newly-laid concrete footings at a house in the Black Country.

Unable to get out of the sticky mixture, which was starting to set, Myrtle became distressed alerting residents in Kent Road, Halesowen to her struggle. They wrapped blankets around the dog and called the fire service out to rescue the stranded pooch.

A crew from Halesowen Fire Station went to Myrtle's aid and were able to lift her legs out of the cement. They carried the dog to nearby Manor Vets where she was checked over by vet Darran Jennings.

He said Myrtle was none the worse for the ordeal but was given a bath by veterinary nurses to remove all of the mud, which she had ended up getting covered in as she struggled to get out of the cement.

Firefighter Scott Morris, who helped with yesterday afternoon's rescue, said: "We don't know how she had been stuck in the cement but she was very keen to get out of it." Watch commander Andy Lewis added: "Myrtle had wandered down the road to where these footings had just been laid.

"She's not able to walk very well which might be how she became stuck in the first place.

"We lifted her out and as the vets was just down the road we took her there.

"Fortunately she had a microchip and it turned out she was on their books. They were able to call the owner.

Resident Roger Greenway who watched the rescue said: "The poor dog couldn't get out and no one could get close enough to reach her. The firemen just lifted her out and took her to the vets."



Firefighter Scott Morris watches as veterinary nurse Amy Finch washes the cement off Myrtle the dog

## Court hears of father's phone call to daughter 'I'VE KILLED YOUR MUM'

A ex-firefighter from Halesowen strangled his wife and then phoned his daughter and told her "I've killed your mother", a court heard.

Michelle Wathen-Edwards was giving evidence at the murder trial of her 67-year-old father, Michael, at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

Wathen, of Brier Mill Road, admits the manslaughter of his wife on March 2 this year but denies murdering her.

The court heard Mrs Wathen had decided to leave her husband after developing a relationship with his friend of 30 years Alan Thompson.

Mrs Wathen-Edwards told the court on Tuesday she had received a phone call from her father.

"I took the call and my dad asked if Paul, my husband was there. I said no as he had taken our son to karate," she said.

"I said was everything alright and he said 'No I've just killed your mother'."

"I remember saying I was going to put the phone down to call Paul and that I would ring him right back."

Mrs Wathen-Edwards said she had called her husband who said he would bring their son home before going to his in-laws address.

"I rang my father back and told him Paul

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk was on his way. He asked how long he was going to be and I said I did not know.

"He asked me if I thought he should call the police or ambulance. I said I was not thinking straight and was not sure who he should call. I asked if there were any signs of life and he said no. I told him to call the police because the police would then call the ambulance as well."

Mr Gareth Evans, prosecuting, told the court that during one of the conversations Wathen had also said "What have I done? I've ruined everyone's lives. I'm sorry."

### Suspected

Mrs Wathen-Edwards said her father had suspected his wife of having an affair with Mr Thompson for some time but her mother had originally denied it.

She told the court her father had called her while the couple were on holiday in Goa saying her mother planned to leave him because she had feelings for Mr Thompson.

Mrs Wathen-Edwards said she had later spoken to her mother who told her she and Mr Thompson could not help their feelings, the court was told.

Mr Thompson told the court he had been friends with Wathen since the pair had worked together at Northfield Fire Station.

He told the court his wife, June, had been diagnosed with cancer in January 2010 and

he and Mrs Wathen had grown closer while she was supporting him.

The court also heard from Mr Thompson, who said he was on his way to collect Mrs Wathen when a phone call was picked up by her husband who told him she was "dead on the bed upstairs". The court heard, Mrs Wathen, had phoned Mr Thompson on March 2 and asked him to collect her.

Mr Thompson had driven to Halesowen from Droitwich and stopped a quarter of a mile away and phoned the house.

At first there was no reply on either Mrs Wathen's mobile or landline, but Mr Thompson eventually got through and it was Michael Wathen who answered, the court was told.

Mr Thompson said: "I asked him if Heather still wanted me to pick her up.

"He told me no because she was dead on the bed upstairs. He said 'I have killed her'." Mr Thompson said he had not believed Wathen at first and had phoned again, only to be told again what had happened. He said he had driven past the address a couple of times and then police and ambulance crews had arrived.

During the opening of the trial, the jury were played a recording of Wathen's call to a police operator.

He told the operator: "I have just murdered my wife." When asked why, he said: "Because she was going to leave me."

The trial continues.

## Means tests planned for ring and ride

Ring and Ride services in the West Midlands will be means tested under new plans.

Transport chiefs want 70,000 pensioners and disabled people to prove they need the door-to-door service. Currently they only have to fill in a form declaring they find it very difficult or impossible to use conventional buses, trams and trains.

Councillors on transport authority Centro are to be presented with a report next week outlining the progress made on a review of the service, run by charity West Midlands Special Needs Transport.

Earlier this year bosses introduced a 60p single fare charge to help towards running costs. It was followed by a drop of 12,000 trips between April and November. The cost of providing the service in the West Midlands is £11.5m or £7.50 per trip. The consultation, if approved, would give automatic eligibility for those showing they receive benefits linked to mobility.

Alternatively applicants can attend a medical centre for assessment.

Pensioners also face being charged £25 a year for passes to use trains and trams. Transport authority Centro says it is considering means testing elderly and disabled people who use the Ring and Ride service.

It will ask them to prove they are eligible for the subsidised door-to-door scheme. People above the age of 60 are currently allowed to use rail and Metro services in the West Midlands for free at certain times thanks to an add-on to the free bus passes to which they are entitled by law.

However, Centro is being forced to cut £4.5 million off its council tax levy in an attempt to help local authorities in the West Midlands cope with massive savings.

Centro will get £147.5m in 2012-13 from the councils covering Wolverhampton, Sandwell, Dudley, Walsall, Birmingham, Solihull and Coventry.

Chief executive Geoff Inskip has warned he cannot rule out job losses, but said efforts were being made to cut costs by not replacing staff when they leave, rather than through redundancies.

As well as charging pensioners for passes to use rail and Metro services after 9.30am, there are warnings of cuts to children's subsidised travel.

## Thieves get 200 Christmas trees

Around 200 Christmas trees worth thousands of pounds have been stolen from a farm shop in South Staffordshire.

The thieves broke into a compound at Roberts Farm Shop near Kingswinford and dragged the trees across fields to nearby Lawnswood Road where they loaded them onto a vehicle and drove off.

Officers said the trees, which were of various sizes and varieties, had a sale value of more than £4,500.

Detectives are now asking witnesses or anyone who saw any suspicious behaviour near the farm shop to get in touch. They are also appealing for people to be on their guard as they believe the thieves may try to sell the trees on.

Farm manager Matthew Roberts said security at the site has now been stepped up and nightwatchman has been installed to deter thieves from coming back for more trees.

"It's a lot of money to lose. It's left us short and we've had to order more trees to make sure we have enough. It looks like they dragged the trees through one of our fields," he said. It is believed the thieves broke into the site at around 1am on Sunday.

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# Hunt for escaped prisoner

Police are hunting a man who has escaped from an open prison.

Gary Grove, from Rowley Regis, was jailed for four years in August last year after carrying out a burglary at the home of a pensioner armed with a hammer. The 20-year-old was transferred to HMP Thorn Cross open prison in Warrington in September this year and absconded on November 19.

Police said he has links throughout the Black Country, specifically Sandwell, Dudley, Live, Merry, shopping centre and Wombourne.

Portway Road, took a cocktail of drink and drugs before breaking into the semi-detached house on July 23 last year.

The then 18-year-old told the pensioner, "If you give me some money and jewellery I will go." Grove threatened the 70-year-old man, raising the hammer over his head, and then pocketed a "significant" amount of jewellery. When Grove left the house he was quickly arrested by police officers.

Grove is 6ft 2ins, of medium build with short blonde hair and blue eyes.

Police have now urged him to hand himself in. Anyone with information about Grove, or who sees a man matching his description, is asked not to approach him but to call 999.

## Networking group

A business networking group in the Midlands will hold its next meeting on December 14. Milk No Sugar? meet every second Wednesday of the month from 11am until 12.30pm. The next meeting will be held at The Cock and Magpie pub which is on Severnside North, next to Bewdley bridge.

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# Police not interested in crash, says victim

A locksmith, who was woken by a car smashing into his own vehicle and a wall near his Dudley home, has accused police of not being interested when he called to report the incident.

When Dave Nettleton, from Redhall Road, Lower Gornal, called 999 he was told there were no officers available and to collect a self-reporting form from his local police station the next day. Police said the procedure followed policy. A spokesman for West Midlands Police said no officer was sent out as it was a crash where no-one has been injured or put in any danger.

Mr Nettleton, a 60-year-old self-employed lock repairer said: "I immediately called 999 to report the incident, but when I was put through to the police I was informed no one was available."

"I dressed and went outside, by which time the vehicle was driving away. My neighbour and I found the front registration plate of the car among the rubble, so I again called the police with the details to once again be told, no-one was available and to report it to a police station in the morning."

"About an hour later I heard quite a loud noise outside and saw the car involved driving down the road, obviously looking for the front number plate."

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Dave Nettleton inspects the damaged wall which is yards from his home

## Followed

"When the driver saw that I had seen him he drove away. I then got in my car and followed them at a distance."

"While we were following I once again called the police to inform them we were following the car and the exact location, again to be told no officers were available."

The crash happened at around 4am on Saturday November 26.

Mr Nettleton, who lives with wife Dawn, added: "The police just weren't interested even though we could have led them to those who were responsible."

The police spokesman added: "The caller was asked to bring the number plate when he collected the form."

"Inquiries into the incident are ongoing," added police.

## Spotlight on museum panto



Visitors to a popular Dudley tourist attraction can enjoy some traditional "panto" over the festive season.

Following last year's sell out performance of Scrooge, the Black Country Living Museum and Fizzog Theatre Productions are now set to stage Snow White and the Two Dwarves, a traditional fairytale with a Black Country twist.

Shows will take place on December 16, 17, 19, 20 and 21.

Deb Nichols from Fizzog Productions, which specialises in theatre in education within non-theatrical settings, said they were looking forward to the show and added: "We are delighted to return to the Black Country Living Museum for another panto season."

"The response last year from audiences was overwhelming and we recognised many familiar faces as families return year after year to kick off the festive season with us."

"There is something special about performing at the museum surrounded by the atmospheric and historic canalside village."

During the Christmas season traditional handmade decorations adorn the cottages and horses and visitors can also take into some mulled wine.

## Swimmers raise £400

Halesowen swimmers have raised £400 for their club on a sponsored swim.

More than 40 swimmers aged between four and 28 joined in the event at Halesowen Leisure Centre last month.

The swimmers - who are all members of Coombes Wood Swimming Club - swam more than 920 lengths, which is more than 19 miles, in two hours to raise money for the club.

Coombes Wood Swimming Club has been based at the Dudley Council facility in Pool Road for 31 years and will be using the money raised to train new volunteer swimming instructors.

For more information call Stuart Evans on 0121 550 6461 or Samantha Woodward on 01384 255206 or visit [www.dudley.gov.uk/sport](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/sport)

## Finishing touches

Fashion students at Halesowen College are putting the finishing touches to their entry into a Clothes Show competition. They are designing an outfit for a celebrity of their choice to win the young fashion designer of the year contest. The year two students will be judged this month.

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## Great interest in Sixth Form

There has been incredible interest in people wanting to study at a new multi-million pound sixth form centre which is to be built in the heart of Dudley, say education chiefs.

Preparation work for the Dudley Sixth scheme in Ednam Road, has just begun.

Bosses are aiming to have it ready in time for the September 2012 intake. It is hoped the building contractor ISG will be able to move on site before Christmas.

Bosses at Dudley College say the centre will provide a learning site which has the latest technology.

It will also have "easy-to-access"

resources to support study, and "lively, modern places" for students to relax during their free lesson time.

This development is unusual in that, while it is open to all post-16 learners, it is a partnership project involving five local schools.

They will work with the college in providing a seamless transition for students who go on to study at A-level. The partners involved are: The Coseley School, Holly Hall Academy, High Arcal High School, Castle High School, The Dormston School and Dudley College. Recruitment was launched almost two months ago. At a recent open day more than 500

people called into the information event to register their interest in studying for A-levels.

Robert Chapman, director of Dudley Sixth, said "We are over the moon with the number of young people considering Dudley Sixth as their next place of study."

"We are really excited about the new centre and are sure prospective students are picking up on the buzz if the number of people at a recent open day was anything to go by. With more than 1,000 prospectuses already handed out and the number of visitors to the website rising steadily, the launch has been very well received."

## Team up to protect mobiles

Police have joined forces with mobile phone retailers to reduce crime over the festive season.

Officers are working with Best Buy and the Carphone Warehouse at Dudley's Merry Hill Shopping Centre to persuade people to place their mobiles on national property register Immobilise.com.

People can register the serial number of their mobile on the website to ensure it can be traced back to its rightful owner should it be lost or stolen.

The register already has 25 million members and was set up in 2003 with help from police and the Carphone Warehouse to combat phone theft.

Best Buy and Carphone Warehouse have agreed to promote the scheme and promote Immobilise.com to every customer. Customer receipts will be stamped with the slogan "to protect it, register it free".

The campaign is a trial which runs until the New Year.

## Pupils show their right to be arty

Pupils at a Stourbridge school showed their creative flair through special art projects.

The youngsters at Glynne Primary School, Kingswinford got stuck into creations which included a tree sculpture and a mosaic.

The art focus week was based on Unicef's children's rights which the school is following as part of the curriculum.

They include the right to be treated fairly and to be healthy.

Each of the year groups in the school worked on a different project which incorporated the rights into the colourful designs.

Assistant headteacher Victoria Saunders said: "The children thoroughly enjoyed the work."

They were learning about artists from the past and present, she added.

The school in Cot Lane is working towards Unicef's Rights Respecting Schools level one award, which recognises the staff's efforts to include children's rights in the classroom.



Glynne Primary School assistant headteacher Victoria Saunders with front from left, Casey Lampitt, eight, Joseph Wood, Isabel Barrington-Earp, both six, Ethan Baker and Rhys Hill. Back left: Tom Slater, Sheryl Davies and Laurie Morris

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# Push to get £50,000 station battle fund

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A campaign to find a £50,000 fighting fund is being launched in a bid to overturn controversial plans to close a Black Country fire station and axe a 24-hour crew.

Firefighters have decided to forge ahead with a legal bid to overturn the decision to shut Halesowen fire station and axe the 24-hour crew which serves the town and nearby Cradley Heath.

An action group has backed plans to pursue a judicial review into the closure plans – and now faces a battle to raise £50,000 to cover legal costs for the fight.

Halesowen and Rowley Regis MP James Morris is working with the Halesowen and Cradley Heath Fire Station Action Group, including local business and community leaders, who have taken preliminary legal advice on launching a judicial review.

Mr Morris said a public appeal would be held to help raise the total. Plans are now being drawn up for fundraising events.

A meeting will be held with a barrister to discuss the judicial review.

Mr Morris said: "The action group is extremely angry and determined not to let the issue rest." He added: "There will be a public appeal and we will be looking for contributions from local businesses as this is a vital part of the community that will be lost."

## Protest

West Midlands Fire Authority voted to go ahead with its plans last week despite a wave of protest from residents.

Following the decision, Halesowen Fire Station will close on March 31 and one of two 24-hour crews serving the town and Cradley Heath removed. Fire bosses are also considering whether to build a new fire station and say they plan to consult with residents.

Halesowen firefighters have branded the move a "dark day for the public of Halesowen". Firefighters say they face weeks of uncertainty over where they will be deployed.

## En route to raise cash for Louie



Walkers gather to raise cash for two-year-old Louie Pumphrey including his mother Leanne with Louise, three and Max, five, and organiser Dan Meanock

Family and friends of a Black Country youngster with cerebral palsy gathered for a charity walk to help raise the cash needed to buy him a £20,000 wheelchair.

A group of around 30 gathered for the eight-mile event from Stourbridge to Dudley in support of two-year-old Louie Pumphrey, from Penn, Wolverhampton.

The challenge was to walk from Stourbridge Bus Station and follow the route of the 246 bus to its terminus at Dudley Bus Station.

The route took the walkers

through Ambleside, Brierley Hill and Russells Hall before reaching Dudley town centre. Some of the group carried buckets to collect extra funds en route and National Express West Midlands put on a special bus to pick up latecomers.

Bus drivers from the area also took part in the walk which was organised by 24-year-old Daniel Meanock. Mr Meanock's cousin is Leanne Pumphrey, Louie's mother.

To sponsor Louie log on to [www.justgiving.com/Leanne-Pumphrey](http://www.justgiving.com/Leanne-Pumphrey)

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## Parking restrictions planned

A raft of new restrictions drawn up to tackle parking problems in roads surrounding Russells Hall Hospital are to be introduced next summer.

Council bosses have been working on the proposals throughout this year after neighbours complained visitors and staff are using their road for parking and avoid costly charges.

The plans went before the Central Dudley Area Committee earlier this year where they were given the go ahead by councillors.

Councillor Patrick Harley, said: "It is likely the Russells Hall estate traffic regulation order will be introduced in the summer of 2012."

"This process has seen consultation at its best with ward members, residents and all stakeholders being invited to put forward comments."

"The end result is an exercise that is a total credit to the transportation council officers involved."

The plans include restricted access to Pearce Close, Dereton Close, Elgar Crescent and Abbotsford Drive, also waiting restrictions in Middlepark Road, Bushey Fields Road, The Oval and Ashenhurst Road.

A loading ban in High Street, Pen-snett, is suggested on weekdays from 7.30-9.30am and 4.30-6.30pm.

No waiting at any time has been

suggested for Tennyson Street, Milton Street, Steppingstone Street and Byron Street.

Plans for restricted access to the Kingswinford Service Road and Hilderic Crescent were also earmarked for approval.

Residents say the parking problems have been an issue for householders in the area for a number of years.

Issues have also been raised about the fact that workmen and delivery people struggle to get down narrow roads. A number of householders say they are in favour of resident only parking on the streets.

## Hope of creating 400 jobs

At least 400 jobs are expected to be created under plans to revamp a former sugar factory in Kidderminster, building more than 300 homes and a business park.

The development, where the old British Sugar factory stood in Stourport Road, will form part of the South Kidderminster Enterprise Park, which won Government support last month.

Wyre Forest District Council officer Daniel Boden revealed the figures following a consultation by developers St Francis Group.

"This is still in early stages of masterplan development - but we believe when fully developed, phase one of the site has the potential to provide in the region of 400 jobs," he said.

"This is not including any additional jobs associated with the construction process."

Council leader John Campion labelled the proposals as "very exciting" for the town.

## Iron man David is steaming in

A former RAF technician hopes to flatten the competition after launching an ironing business from his Stourbridge home.

David Merrick has set up the firm, called Iron Man, and is now looking to build a steady stream of regular customers.

The 30-year-old decided on the career move after his wife Cathy, 25, fell ill last year and he needed to be at home to look after her and their children Charlie, aged three, and 18-month-old Jack.

Mr Merrick, of Oldnall Road, said he was now a carer for his wife but needed to find a way of bringing in money to pay the bills while being able to stay around the home.

It was his military training - which provided the answer - a move into the growing home-ironing trade.

Mr Merrick, who served in Basra on a four-month tour of duty, said: "It may sound odd but you are taught how to iron in basic training when you join the military."

"It was something I knew I was good at and was not cost-intensive. Also it means I can work from home."



Former RAF Electronics Technician David Merrick, of Stourbridge, who has launched a new ironing business and his family, Cathy, Charlie and Jack

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Wednesday 28 December, 2011	Thursday 29 December, 2011
Thursday 29 December, 2011	Friday 30 December, 2011
Friday 30 December, 2011	Saturday 31 December 2011

- ✓ Remember the **GARDEN WASTE SERVICE** is all year round apart from a two week break between 26 December and 6 January.
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- ✓ **CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTIONS** You can cut up your real Christmas tree and put it in your garden waste bin however, we will also be collecting Christmas trees between January 9 - 27. Call us on **0845 359 7501** to arrange a collection.



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The Contact Centre will be closed between Saturday 24 December (Christmas eve) to Tuesday 27 December & operating reduced hours on Wednesday 28 December 9am-5pm.

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**thechronicle**

# Police chief feeling the heat over cuts

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

The chief constable of the West Midlands found himself in the middle of a bitter row over plans to shut a string of police stations overnight.

The region's police authority attacked the way the public had been consulted over the proposals.

Two protest petitions with a total of nearly 4,000 signatures urging a rethink were handed to the meeting in Birmingham last week. The force wants to shut 12 stations - including Wednesfield, Dudley, Stourbridge, Halesowen and Bloxwich - between 6pm and 10pm and redeploy staff to contact centres or front line duties.

The proposal is part of the battle by West Midlands Police to save £126 million over the next four years in a bid to manage Government cuts in funding.

Chief Constable Chris Sims maintained this "tremendous response" showed the process was not flawed.

### Outcry

But Wolverhampton councillor Bob Jones, the police authority's finance chief, responded: "I find it difficult to understand how mass petitions and an outcry that the consultation has been totally inadequate can be used as evidence that the process is working."

Magistrate Julia Lyle added: "The public need reassurance that the consultation is not a superficial exercise."

The public consultation deadline has been extended from December 31 until January 15. Dudley North MP Ian Austin handed in a 2,000-strong petition, pleading for Dudley police station to be spared. He said: "The signatures were collected in less than a fortnight and this indicates the deep feelings against this proposal."

Another petition with 1,900 signatures calling for Bloxwich police station to stay open 24 hours a day and supported by a letter from Walsall North MP David Winnick was also presented to the committee.

The chief constable suggested minor alterations may be possible but warned: "If we deviate from the core of the proposals I will have to cut something else and that could potentially have a more direct impact on the service we provide."

## Landmark to be restored



Rotary president Neil Brazier and Mike Deathridge with the toposcope

A fundraising campaign is to be launched to refurbish a toposcope, which is a landmark that acts as a geographical guide, at a beauty spot in South Staffordshire.

The marker on Kinver Edge was designed and paid for by the Rotary Club of Kinver as its first major public project after its formation in 1985.

However, since the monument was positioned on the most prominent, and most exposed part of the site in 1990, the base and granite

top have developing cracks. Renowned sculptor and stone carver Michael Scheuermann, has repositioned the detached pieces and is currently assessing the cost of a granite replacement. Mike Deathridge, who heads the rotary committee looking into the repair, said: "We don't know how much a new top will cost but it will be expensive. When we do have a figure we will be researching the possibility of securing grants and obtaining donations."

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# Dumped suite adds to £10m sewers bill

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

A pick axe, vacuum cleaner and king-size quilts dumped down sewers have contributed towards a £10m annual repair bill for Severn Trent Water.

Other items discovered after recent blockages in the Black Country include milk crates, traffic cones, metal fencing, cushions, carpets and pushchairs.

Most were dropped straight down man-holes in Wolverhampton, Walsall, Sandwell and Dudley after the covers were taken off. It is costing the firm £10 million each year to remove the 22,000 blockages that blight its sewer system.

Drew Kirby, strategy manager for Severn Trent's sewerage infrastructure, said: "It is easy to think 'Out of sight, out of mind,' but this is creating a major problem for our workers."

There are 700km that are the most troublesome of its 90,000km stretch of pipe work. Wednesbury, Walsall town centre and Tipton are among locations named as the worst hit, with sewers clogged up 587 times in the last year.

That put the areas in 10th, 11th and 12th place consecutively in a league table of the biggest blockers in the area covered by Severn Trent, which reaches from Wales to Scunthorpe and Gloucester to Leicester.

## Toothbrushes

Workers recently found an entire three-piece suite dumped in a sewer in Leamington Spa, while a child near Worcester cleared her parents' bathroom cabinet of toothbrushes, hairbrushes, combs and beauty products and flushed them all down the toilet.

Mr Kirby added: "A blocked sewer is, of course, inconvenient but if it leads to sewer flooding it can be extremely unpleasant and stressful."

"It is particularly frustrating when those caused by misuse of sewers and drains can be completely avoided."

Severn Trent spokeswoman Amy Weiser said: "Two out of every five sewer blockages come from cleansing wipes and sanitary products, while one in five are from fat, oil and grease."

"We are still left scratching our heads after hearing about some of the stuff our staff discover."

## Drinkers warm to winter ales



Penny Russell, Kate Lally, Stan Stephens, Alex Merchant and Simon Hanson at the Dudley Winter Ales Fayre

Fans of real ale enjoyed some of the finest brews from around the UK and overseas. Dudley Winter Ales Fayre served up beers, ciders and fruit wines at Dudley Concert Hall.

The latest real ale pub guide was also launched at the event, which attracts thousands every year. The guide is produced

between Dudley Council and the Dudley and Stourbridge branches of the Campaign for Real Ale.

Councillor David Stanley said: "Dudley is well known for its real ale and it is an important part of the borough's visitor offer." The winter ales festival has been running annually for more than 25 years.



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## thechronicle

# 500 fines to drivers for parking around hospital

More than 500 parking fines have been handed out to drivers leaving their cars in roads around Russells Hall Hospital. Tickets in the past year were given to visitors, patients and staff who were trying to avoid paying to park at the hospital.

About 125 fines were issued to motorists who had illegally parked on yellow lines outside the hospital in Pensnett Road. People also received tickets in Bushey Fields Road and Pensnett High Street during the past 12 months. A total of 528 were issued between November 1, 2010 and October 31, 2011.

Fines of £50 and £70 are given out depending on the offence but the amount is reduced if it is paid within 14 days. If every fine was £50 and it was paid at the discounted rate of £25 it would

still generate £13,200 for Dudley Council.

Councillor Patrick Harley, cabinet member for transport on Dudley Council, said: "Penalty Charge Notices are issued to vehicles that appear to be parking in contravention of the council's traffic regulation orders.

"Any ticket may be challenged by the motorist if they believe it was incorrectly issued," Councillor Harley added.

## Congestion

The council is preparing to bring in further parking restrictions to reduce congestion. People living near the hospital have long complained about patients, visitors and staff leaving cars outside their homes.

Under the proposals, which will come into force in summer next year, there will be restricted access to Pearce Close, Deneton Close, Elgar Crescent and Abbot's Drive. There will be waiting restrictions in

Middlepark Road, Bushey Fields Road, The Oval and Ashenhurst Road.

A loading ban in High Street, Pensnett, is suggested on weekdays from 7.30 to 9.30am and 4.30-6.30pm. No waiting at any time has been suggested for Tennyson Street, Milton Street, Steppingstone Street and Byron Street. Plans for restricted access to the Kingswinford Service Road and Hildric Crescent have also been earmarked for approval.

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## Pupils busy making the headline Moos



Pupils Luke Howard, front left, Kiran Badyal and William Hollis with, back from left, Naomi Edwards, Oliver Sayers, Sayona Kite and consultant Brett Laniosh

Read all about it – children at one Black Country primary school have got the latest scoop hitting the community.

A team of eight aspiring hacks have teamed up to create The Moos – an online newsletter serving Milking Bank Primary School in Dudley and the surrounding area.

The project has been co-ordinated by ICT consultant Brett Laniosh, who said he hoped it would help the students develop their literacy skills and different ways of thinking.

He said: "It has been really successful and the children are enjoying getting to grips with reporting.

"They found it a bit difficult at first but soon picked it up."

Working just one afternoon a week since September, the students have already published more than 10 short articles covering a range of topics from Movember, the Poppy Appeal, a visit to the Black Country Living Museum and the school's new amphitheatre.

They have also produced sound clips to accompany stories and plan to produce video content as well.

To check out the latest Moos, visit: [www.milking.dudley.sch.uk/themoos](http://www.milking.dudley.sch.uk/themoos)

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**thechronicle**

## Police round up 90 stray horses

More than 90 stray horses have been rounded up by police in Dudley since the start of a new campaign to remove them from danger seven months ago.

Officers have been removing the animals from busy roads around the borough. The move follows calls from the public.

Since April police teams have removed 92 horses that were causing a nuisance and they believe the number of strays is dropping.

Sergeant Cliff Tomkinson, who leads the Brockmoor and Pensnett police neighbourhood team's campaign, said: "There seems to be fewer

numbers so I think we have broken the back of it."

Dudley Council has been paying police to impound strays blighting the streets after council officers uncovered a law dating back to the mid-1800s clarifying responsibility.

The scheme was originally a six-month trial but has been extended after it proved a success.

Hundreds of reports of animals in Pensnett, Brockmoor, Kingswinford and Coseley have been logged with the council since the start of the year.

The council pays the police an undisclosed sum to seize strays which are then taken outside the Black

Country to be rehomed. Police say the horses will be kept for three days and if the owner cannot be contacted or does not come forward with ownership proof and settle fines, they will be found new homes.

Section 24 of the Town and Police Clauses Act 1847 states police can seize and impound cattle which stray on to a public highway.

Until the new agreement, the council had been paying an outside agency around £20,000 a year to impound horses. The council has set up a new working group looking at resolving longer term issues of horses on council owned land.

## Future of event hit by theft

A community event in Wordsley has been put at risk after thousands of pounds of equipment was stolen from store rooms.

Wordsley Festival Group has been left "devastated" after thieves stole four generators, speakers, amplifiers and microphones. Police are investigating.

The equipment was stored in rooms at the dressing room complex at King George V Park, off Bells Lane, Wordsley, where the event is held each year.

The group's chairman said the theft had put next year's event at risk if the items were not returned or if replacements could not be secured.

Mick Davies said the equipment had been accrued by the group over the years with each of the generators costing £400 and the PA equipment £500.

They are used for the festival and its annual fun run and festival princess competition.

Mr Davies said: "We only hope the equipment is returned to us."

## Dancers are getting hip to hop

More than 70 pupils from a Black Country dance school will be showing their skills at performance.

The event will be staged at the Joanne Allen School of Dance at the Dormston Mill Theatre, Sedgley, on December 9.

The group will perform a wide range of styles, including break and street dancing, tap, ballet and contemporary.

Tickets for the show are £9 and will be available on the door on the evening.

The group has been running for around seven years and classes are held at venues in Coseley, Wombourne and Ettingshall Park, Wolverhampton.

It is also looking for more boys to join up.

Anyone interested in joining the school can call Joanne on 07815 974713.

Debbie Moody, who helps run the classes, said they were looking forward to the dance show.

"It will showcase a range of styles from traditional to modern," she said.

"It will be a really entertaining evening."



Ready to dance at Dormston Theatre, Sedgley are, back from left, Kirsty George, aged 11, Joe Moodie, 14, Eddie Champion, 10, front from left, Fabian Pritchard, six, Harvey Hill, eight, Myles Harper, 15, and Ben Harper, 12

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## thechronicle

## Motorists warned to lock cars after checks

Motorists in Halesowen are being urged to make sure they secure their cars after police checks found several vehicles in the area had been left unlocked.

Officers in the Howley Grange have been checking doors on cars after a spate of vehicle crime and in 10 days found 20 had been left unsecured and unlocked.

Neighbourhood Sgt Wendy Tyler said drivers need to ensure their cars are locked if they want to deter thieves from targeting their vehicles: "I want to urge people to be more vigilant when leaving their vehicle unattended.

Locking a vehicle should be an automatic thing to do when walking away from the car, be it for a minute or two or overnight."

West Midlands Police have stepped up patrols throughout Howley Grange.

Those householders found to have left their vehicle unlocked will be visited. For all non-emergency calls contact 0345 113 5000, but if you see a crime in progress dial 999.

## Pc is to be honoured



Pc Dave Webb, who is being honoured by the Royal Humane Society

A police officer who went to the aid of a man suffering a heart attack is being honoured for his life-saving actions.

Pc Dave Webb helped a paramedic to resuscitate the 50-year-old after he collapsed in Round Hill, Sedgley.

The father-of-four was one of the first to arrive on the scene and was joined by some of his colleagues from the Sedgley neighbourhood police team.

The policeman, who is based at Sedgley Police Station, said: "We had a call to say there had been a cardiac arrest in the street.

"The paramedic was trying to resuscitate the man with a defibrillator but it wasn't working.

"I did chest compressions until the ambulance arrived to take him to hospital.

"We carried on chest compressions and on route we were able to get him back."

The Royal Humane Society is now going to present Pc Webb with an award. Pc Webb, aged 50, was nominated by his colleagues at West Midlands Police. The grandfather-of-six, said, the man survived. He is now doing very well and is grateful to be alive.

## Meeting for volunteers who are caring for the elderly

A charity which works with the elderly in Dudley Borough has organised a meeting for volunteers who help support older people.

The engAGING Network is an informal network that meets once a quarter for those who are involved in providing services as part of a voluntary organisation.

Age UK Dudley holds the meetings at The Savoy Centre, Northfield Road, Netherton from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

The next meeting is on December 12. For more information call 01384 354 508 or email mail@ageukdudley.org.uk

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## thechronicle

# Campaigners want to take over church

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Campaigners fighting to reopen a Dudley church are applying to take over responsibility for the building so they can start carrying out restoration work.

The St John's Church Preservation Group says it would be a big step forward for the campaign, and enable repairs to be carried out much sooner. Members are drawing up a business plan and will submit an application to lease the building from the Church Commissioners.

If the proposal is approved the 173-year-old church will be formally closed as a place of worship.

But it is hoped the building would be used for worship again in the future.

The preservation group has put forward a plan which involves no substantial alteration to the Grade II listed building.

An extensive community survey, of more than 400 people, showed 76 per cent of respondents wanted to keep the church as unaltered as possible.

Most were in favour of developing the undercroft, a large space underneath the church building which could be used to create a cafe, toilets and meeting rooms. If the proposals are approved by the church commissioners, the handover could take place in the middle of next year.

## Forward

Preservation group chairwoman Deb Brownlee said: "We feel this is the best way forward for St John's Church now."

"The research has gone on long enough, and the answers are always the same 'keep it as an historic building and get it reopened' which is the preservation group position exactly."

"There is very little interest in the building as a commercial proposition but huge interest in the history and heritage of the site."

"We are confident that we can fund the building and restoration from events, voluntary giving, sponsorship and fundraising, including applying for grants."

Under the plans the building would be made available for worship, community use and commercial uses including events and shows.

The project would be funded by fundraising efforts, donations, a sponsorship scheme and by grants aid. The church closed in 2002 due to safety fears but recent surveys have shown it is in a much better condition than it was first thought.

## Trees of remembrance

The families and friends of people who have died planted trees in memory of their loved ones at a ceremony at a Rowley Regis school.

Rowley Hall Primary School, Windsor Road, hosted an emotional event for families with funding from the National Lottery.

A total of 50 trees were planted and dedicated at the ceremony.

Anne Bartlett was among those paying respects to their late loved ones.

She planted a sapling in memory of her brother Peter Bradley, who died in a car accident aged 30, in 1999.

She said: "I was thinking about him as I planted the tree, as I am sure others were thinking about their loved ones."

Mother-of-three Nicola Kelsall, whose three sons

attend the school, meanwhile planted a tree in memory of her first-born Harvey, who passed away after a premature birth in 1996.

Mrs Kelsall, who attended with her husband Antony and sons Ben, Sean and Jude, added: "I'm glad I was there with all my



Imogen Ferrer, horticulturist Anne Bartlett and Edward Gatland with, front, Willow Ferrer as they plant remembrance trees

family." School office worker Elizabeth Hughes, who attended with her eight-year-old nephew Sam, also planted a tree dedicated to her late grandmother Elizabeth Downing. She said: "She was such a lovely person and adored Sam so it was nice to remember her."

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thechronicle

# Rare chance to see canal lock workings



### Steadying the old lock at Dudley No1 Canal is Steve Duffield from Tipton

The work at Delph Locks on the Dudley No1 Canal will see new gates installed.

The public were able to tour the site near Brierley Hill during an open day last week to find out from expert staff how the specialist work is carried out.

People were able to watch the gates being lifted out and talk to the on-site maintenance team.

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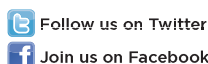
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## Silver surfer Ray is hard wired



Ray Leighton, aged 74, who has written two books using his computer at home

Ten years ago grandfather Ray Leighton didn't even know how to turn on a computer – now the silver surfer has become a whizz on all things online and has completed two novels which have both been published.

The 74-year-old has even produced his own booklet for friends and family on how to fix computer problems and says the machine has "revolutionised his life."

The father-of-six and grandfather of 13 was given his first computer around a decade ago by his son Mark who had to show him where the power switch was but from then he

has gone from strength to strength. Mr Leighton, who lives on Oakfield Road in Wollescote, said: "I have always loved to write and done some short stories but I used to have to do it by hand."

The retired chapel custodian's two novels are called *Desperate Mothers*, a historical novel set in Victorian times about baby farming and *The Afterlife Debriefing*, a fantasy novel. Both are available via paperback or Kindle via the website Amazon.

"It is amazing that my work has been printed, it is something I never expected."

## Campaign on lollipop patrols

A new campaign has been launched in Wyre Forest to crack down on drivers who do not stop for lollipop patrols.

Worcestershire County Council has launched the "Stop Means STOP" campaign highlighting the rule that when the school crossing patrol raises the lollipop sign, motorists are legally required to stop.

Bosses say there are 85 patrols across the county and in the past 12 months many have experienced drivers who have failed to stop or who are rude and abusive.

Councillor John Smith, said: "If someone drives aggressively or impatiently it can have catastrophic results. Drivers also need to be aware that school crossing patrols can stop the traffic for anyone who needs to cross the road – it doesn't have to be children."

Tina Green, school crossing patrol co-ordinator, said drivers who fail to stop can be fined up to £1,000, have three penalty points on their licence or even face a ban.

## School cooks up menu success

A Black Country school has won an award in a national competition.

The catering team at Holly Hall Academy, Scotts Green Close, Dudley, was presented with the accolade by Blakemore food suppliers at a ceremony recently.

Catering manager Diane Griffiths collected the award at the Hilton Hotel, Coventry, on behalf of staff and said they were delighted to have been honoured.

The school won the award for best menu in the public sector.

The menu focuses on healthy home-cooked meals and baguettes, with chips only served once a week on a Friday.

Dishes such as spaghetti bolognese, lasagne and cottage pie along with fresh vegetables and salads are among the staples.

Youngsters are also offered faster foods from around the world, and Spanish, Mexican, Greek and French days have been held and had proved a hit with youngsters.



Diane Griffiths, catering manager at Holly Hall Academy, with the award

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# Town centre set to get extra car spaces

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Extra parking spaces will be introduced in Stourbridge town centre to ease the burden for shoppers when the £50 million Crown Centre redevelopment gets under way.

Council bosses said they hoped the spaces would be in place for the Christmas rush, but final plans were still being drawn up. Traders and residents have voiced concerns about the amount of parking available in the town after the Bell Street multi-storey car park is demolished.

It is going to make way for the redeveloped Crown Centre. Up to 10 spaces will be created in Lower High Street as part of the replacement scheme.

The spaces would be similar to the drive-in bays along the opposite side of Lower High Street, neighbouring King Edward VI College.

The spaces would replace the standard parking bays which run up the right-hand side of the one-way street approaching The Mitre pub.

## Turnover

There will be a time limit put on the spaces to ensure a turnover of people visiting the shops.

Dudley Councillor Patrick Harley, said the scheme would help while the development got under way.

"I think that we should look at anything we can do to introduce more on-street car parking in our town centres to help shops," he said.

"There will obviously be some disruption to the town while the development is taking place but this is one way of creating more parking."

In the longer term the development will mean many more parking spaces.

A new 543-space underground car parking is being built as part of the multi-million pound scheme which is being led by Tesco.

Transport engineers at the council are now looking into the viability of the plan for more on street parking spaces over the next few weeks.

A similar trial is taking place in selected streets around Dudley town centre in a bid to boost trade and appease concerned business owners there.

## Lauren hitting right note



Success – singer Lauren Wright who set up her a management course at Kidderminster College

A young singer-songwriter from the Midlands looks set for success after setting up her own management company through her college course. Lauren Wright, aged 19, is studying artist development at Kidderminster College which has seen her set up her own management company called The Rockstar Factory. She has already managed to release her own

single. She said the new management company has made her more professional when getting in touch with people in the music industry.

Among the successes so far is an acoustic support slot in the entrance of the LG Arena during recent Britney Spears show and securing a Nashville producer for her debut single Kiss Me.

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**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Home Cooking Made Easy. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Live Snooker: UK Championship. The opening session of the second semi-final. **4.30** Final Score. **5.15** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **5.35** My Family. (R)

**6.30** Strictly Come Dancing. The five remaining couples compete for a place in next week's final.

**8.15** Merlin. Morgana and a powerful warlord plot to take over Camelot and with Arthur preoccupied with a visiting princess, it is left to the returning Gwen to raise the alarm.

**9.00** Casualty. Part two of two. Dylan and Zoe are trapped in resus while the fire rages, and Jay confronts Ruth in her office, oblivious to the chaos below. Starring Georgia Taylor. The series returns on January 7.

**9.50** The National Lottery Saturday Night Draws. Mylene Klass announces the all-important numbers.

**10.00** BBC News: Weather. **10.20** Match of the Day. Including highlights of Manchester United v Wolverhampton Wanderers; National Lottery Update.

**11.45** The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two.

**1.05** Weatherview. **1.10** BBC News.

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **12.00** The Sky at Night. (R) **12.20** Coast. (R) **12.25** Ashtore and Rogers: Sing George and Ira Gershwin. **12.35** Film: A Damsel in Distress. (1937) **2.15** Film: Stage Door. (1937) **3.45** Hair: Bikers' Best of British. **4.30** Live Snooker: UK Championship. The opening session of the second semi-final. **5.30** One Man and His Dog.

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**6.30** Flog It! Anita Manning and Mark Stacey offer advice in Luton, while Paul Martin visits a local milliner working in the traditional hat industry. (R)

**7.00** Live Snooker: UK Championship. Hazel Irvine introduces coverage of the concluding session of the second semi-final at the Barbican Centre in York, where the first player to win nine frames will progress. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

**10.00** Qi XL. With Ross Noble, Dara O Briain and Jeremy Clarkson. (R)

**10.45** FILM: In the Valley of Elah. (2007) Premiere. Drama, starring Tommy Lee Jones.

**12.25** Film: Heist. (2001) A thief is blackmailed into pulling off a robbery, and also suspects his wife is planning to leave him. Thriller, starring Gene Hackman. **2.10** Close.

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **9.25** Coronation Street. **11.45** This Morning: Saturday. **12.45** ITV News: Weather. **12.55** Film: Thunderbirds. (2004) Sci-fi adventure, starring Bill Paxton. **2.35** Film: The Mummy Returns. (2001) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Brendan Fraser. **5.00** Regional Programmes. **5.15** ITV News: Weather. **5.30** You've Been Framed! (R)

**6.00** The Chase. With Joe Pasquale, Janet Street-Porter, Mark Durden-Smith and Austin Healey. Last in the series.

**7.00** This Is Justin Bieber. The pop star performs his hits and meets Chelsea FC stars.

**8.00** The X Factor Final. The three remaining acts get ready for their most important performances yet as they arrive at Wembley Arena for the first part of the live final. Dermot O'Leary presents.

**10.00** Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Peter Andre. Last in the series.

**11.00** ITV News: Weather. **11.15** FILM: Nutty Professor II: The Klumps. (2000) Comedy sequel, starring Eddie Murphy.

**6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** Sailing. (R) **7.25** Offshore Academy. **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.50** T4: Smallville. (R) **9.55** T4: The Crush. **10.25** T4: Example: Backstage. **11.00** T4: Real Stories: Eminem. **12.00** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.35** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.05** Channel 4 Racing. **3.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.55** Come Dine with Me. (R)

**6.25** Channel 4 News. **6.55** 4thought.tv. Michael Bray discusses his experience of being homeless.

**7.00** Kirstie's Handmade Christmas. Festive two-partner in which Kirstie Allsopp holds a crafty Christmas. (R)

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**8.00** Tony Robinson's Gods and Monsters. The presenter turns his attention to disease.

**9.00** FILM: Vicky Cristina Barcelona. (2008) Premiere. Comedy, starring Scarlett Johansson and Rebecca Hall.

**11.00** FILM: Double Jeopardy. (1999) Thriller, starring Ashley Judd.

**1.00** Film: Unmade Beds. (2009) **2.40** Shameless USA. **4.30** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.15** River Cottage Bites. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **10.20** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.20** Highland Emergency. (R) **11.50** Film: A Boyfriend for Christmas. (2004) **1.40** Film: All I Want for Christmas. (2007) Drama, starring Gail O'Grady. **3.25** Film: The Christmas Gift. (2009) Premiere. Festive drama, starring Dean Cain. **5.10** Film: Single Santa Seeks Mrs Claus. (2004) Comedy, starring Crystal Bernard.

**6.55** 5 News Weekend. **7.00** NCIS. Three similar execution-style killings take place, and the agents suspect the wife of one of the victims – but, unfortunately for them, she has an alibi. Starring Michael Weatherly. (R)

**8.00** NCIS. Gibbs's former commanding officer is accused of murder. (R)

**9.00** Tommy Cooper's Christmas. A seasonal special from the archives, featuring mirth and magic, plus guest appearances by Sacha Distel and Clodagh Rodgers, who sing a medley of festive favourites. (R)

**10.05** The Morecambe and Wise Christmas Show. Festive special from 1981. (R)

**11.10** Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll: The 60s Revealed. Stars of the 1960s reflect on the past 40 years. (R)

**12.10** SuperCasino. **3.55** Great Artists. (R) **4.20** Divine Designs. (R) **4.45** Rough Guide to Journeys. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

**ITV2** **7.00** The Planet's Funniest Animals **7.30** Grimefighters **8.00** The World's Best Diet **9.00** Grimefighters **10.00** The Xtra Factor **11.15** Film: Hot Fuzz (2007) Action comedy, starring Simon Pegg.

**ITV3** **1.50** Sherlock Holmes: The Last Vampyre **4.05** Film: Agatha Christie's Murder with Mirrors (1985) **6.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Foyle's War **11.00** Murder in Suburbia

**ITV4** **1.00** Live Darts. The PDC Players Championship Finals. **5.00** 20 Managerial Appointments That Shook the World **6.00** Barcelona's Greatest Goals **7.00** Live Darts. The PDC Players Championship Finals. **11.00** Richard Bacon's Beer and Pizza Club **11.45** Film: Catch-22 (1970)

**BBC THREE** **7.00** The Real Hustle on Holiday **7.15** Great TV Mistakes **8.15** Top Gear **9.15** Russell Howard's Good News Extra **10.00** Film: Meet the Fockers (2004) **11.55** Family Guy

**BBC FOUR** **7.00** The Himalayas **8.00** Dinosaurs, Myths and Monsters **9.00** The Killing II **11.00** The Slap **11.55** Iron Ladies of Liberia

**E4** **3.45** Film: Deck the Halls (2006) **5.35** Desperate Scousewives **6.35** Perfect Couples **7.05** The Big Bang Theory **8.05** Happy Endings **8.30** How I Met Your Mother **9.00** The Big Bang Theory **10.00** Film: Shooter (2007)

**FILM4** **2.40** Shane (1953) Western, starring Alan Ladd. **4.55** Singin' in the Rain (1952) Musical comedy, starring Gene Kelly. **6.55** Ponyo (2008) Premiere. Animated fantasy, with the voice of Noah Lindsey Cyrus. **9.00** X-Men Origins: Wolverine (2009) **11.05** White Noise (2004)

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**Betty is free from pain after having implants**

A WOMAN who had suffered years of pain with two jaw conditions has finally found relief after undergoing dental implant surgery.

Betty had worn dentures for many years but developed neuralgia and her trigeminal nerve had become inflamed. "I had terrible jaw pain and suffered pins and needles in the side of head and tongue. It's a terrible condition. I'd had an MRI scan and seen a specialist but was still without relief," she says.

Clinical dental technician Mr Burchell had made dentures for Betty seven years ago and she returned to his clinic to inquire about a new prescription because the lower denture had lost its stability.

"I had put up with the floating effect of my lower denture and needed to address the problem. My lower gum has receded so much my denture was pressing down on a nerve and causing me pain," she adds.

"Steven explained the benefits of implant-retained dentures and told me it would allow my bite to be opened some more. Since having the implants on my lower denture, I have experienced no more pain."

Mr Burchell said all dentures have a shelf life and Betty's denture problem was due to shrinkage of her gums – a naturally occurring aging process.

"We hoped for an improved outcome on her condition, but never dreamed that the final clinical result could be so rewarding with Betty being free from pain," he added.



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## Transformations Suction is new solution

**A** CUTTING-EDGE development to help resolve the stability problems faced by thousands of denture wearers is being offered at a Dudley clinic.

Denturist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng), who heads the team at the Denture Clinic in North Street, says the invention has the potential to improve the life quality of patients who previously have experienced long-term problems with ill-fitting teeth.

Prosthetics are held in place by tiny valve-operated suction devices which are built into the dentures.

A clever diaphragm principle, triggered by the bite pressure on patients' gums, creates a 'sucking' vacuum between the soft-tissue mouth lining and the prosthetic.

Mr Burchell, whose clinic attracts patients from as far as Spain, the Isle of Skye and the Isle of Anglesey, adds: "The denture revolution is evolving at a

pace. In recent times we have seen what I can only describe as strident steps forward with implant-retained dentures coming into main-stream dentistry, clever technology which allows excellent fitting outcomes and now the Ultra Suction product.

"Implant dentistry is not suitable for everyone, neither is it all patients' first preference.

"The beauty of this technology is that it offers excellent denture retainer qualities without the complex clinical procedures which are required for implant work.

**'Toolbox'**

"We have always endeavoured to be on the very cusp of clinical development and this is another tool in our commitment to always try to deliver results which are greater than patient expectations."

Historically, lower dentures can present stability problems as the jaw bone erodes with age. With

traditional dentures this can cause lower teeth to move and create friction problems on gums.

Mr Burchell adds: "The device can be mounted on upper or lower palates and because of its efficiency allows us to consider a reduction in the size of the acrylic 'plate' which can result in improved speech and taste.

"The Ultra Suction kit increases the options in our clinical 'toolbox' and can provide affordable solutions to many patients who would not wish to pursue the stability resolve with implants.

"I am passionate about the transformations good prosthetics can achieve. You can regularly turn the clock back ten years on someone's face – without the pain of plastic surgery."

Typically, patients will be encouraged to contribute their views to treatment plans and generally be assigned more than three-and-a-half clinical hours in achieving the best possible outcome.



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**6.00** Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Fern Britton Meets Russell Watson. **11.00** Country Tracks. Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.00** The Politics Show. **1.00** EastEnders. **2.55** The Impressions Show with Culshaw and Stephenson. (R) **3.25** A Question of Sport. (R) **3.55** Frozen Planet. (R) **4.55** Songs of Praise. **5.30** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.55** Countryfile.

**6.55** Strictly Come Dancing. The semi-final result is announced.

**7.30** Antiques Roadshow. More items from Layer Marney Tower, near Colchester in Essex, including the first-aid box used on Ernest Shackleton's 1914 Antarctic expedition.

**8.30** Inspector George Gently. Bacchus and Gently investigate the murder of a woman linked to a consignment of stolen passports, taking them into the underground world of gang wars within the Arab community. (R)

**10.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

**10.30** Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Stoke City v Tottenham Hotspur.

**11.30** Have I Got a Bit More News for You. Extended edition, with guest host Miranda Hart. (R)

**12.05** Weather. **12.15** Sign Zone. Film 2011 with Claudia Winkelman. Reviews of Another Earth and New Year's Eve. (R) **12.55** Holly City. Hansen tries to manipulate Sahara. (R) **1.55** Bible's Buried Secrets. (R) **2.55** You've Been Scammed. (R) **3.40** BBC News.

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Something for the Weekend. Presented by Tim Lovejoy and Louise Redknapp. **11.30** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. A selection of super-rich sweets and desserts. **12.15** Coast. (R) **12.30** Live Athletics. **2.15** Live Snooker: UK Championship.



**6.00** Flog It! Paul Martin visits Sheffield to meet people eager to make a profit selling their valuables, and looks around Cutlers Hall to learn more about knife-makers' marks. (R)

**7.00** The Party's Over: How the West Went Bust. Conclusion. Britain's future in the global economy.

**8.00** Live Snooker: UK Championship. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the concluding session of the final at the Barbican Centre in York, where the players need to reach 10 frames to be crowned champion. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

**11.00** Rev. Richard E Grant guest stars. (R)

**11.30** Never Mind the Buzzcocks. With guest host Cilla Black. (R)

**12.00** Film: Full Frontal. (2002) Comedy drama, starring David Duchovny and Julia Roberts. **1.40** BBC News. **3.35** Close.

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **9.25** Monk. (R) **9.30** Horrid Henry. (R) **9.40** Film: Clifford's Really Big Movie. (2005) Animated adventure, with the voice of John Ritter. **11.00** Film: Black Beauty. (1994) Family drama, starring Sean Bean. **12.35** ITV News; Weather. **12.40** You've Been Framed! (R) **1.10** You've Been Framed! (R) **1.40** The X Factor Final. (R) **3.40** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.40** The Unforgettable Larry Grayson. (R)

**6.05** Regional Programmes. **6.15** ITV News; Weather. **6.30** The Cube. A martial arts expert and a forklift truck driver take part.

**7.30** The X Factor Final Results. The two remaining acts compete for the X Factor crown live, before Dermot O'Leary reveals this year's champion. Plus, performances by more chart-topping stars. Last in the series.

**9.30** Text Santa: The Launch. Part one of two. Fundraising initiative, hosted by Phillip Schofield and Christine Bleakley.

**10.30** ITV News; Weather. **10.45** FILM: GoldenEye. (1995) Spy adventure, starring Pierce Brosnan.



**1.10** The Zone; ITV News Headlines. **2.00** Motorsport UK. **2.50** Kojak. (R) **3.45** ITV News. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

**6.10** Sali Mali. (R) **6.15** The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** Triathlon. (R) **7.30** Adidas Terrex Coast to Coast. (R) **8.00** T4: One Tree Hill. (R) **8.55** T4: Hollywood. **11.25** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** T4: Shipwrecked: The Island. **1.30** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** T4: T4 Stars of 2011. **4.20** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **4.50** Deal or No Deal. **5.45** Film: Elf. (2003) Fantasy comedy, with Will Ferrell.

**7.35** Channel 4 News. **8.05** The Political Slot. **8.10** 4thought.tv. **8.15** Japan Tsunami: Caught on Camera. Amateur footage and eyewitness accounts of the disaster.



**9.30** Black Mirror: 15 Million Merits. Dark satire set in a future reality where the only escape from a lifetime of physical drudgery is through a talent show. Starring Daniel Kaluuya and Rupert Everett.

**10.50** British Comedy Awards: The Nominations Show. Announcing the shortlists for this year's ceremony.

**12.00** Rhod Gilbert and the Cat That Looked Like Nicholas Lyndhurst. (R) **1.00** American Football Live. Dallas Cowboys v New York Giants (Kick-off 12.00am). **4.45** Freeports on 4. (R) **5.15** Post Modern Pastimes. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

**6.00** Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fit and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **6.35** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Igam Ogam. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** The Milkshake! Show. **7.30** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.50** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.15** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.30** Angelina Ballerina. **8.50** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **9.15** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Mist: Sheepdog Tales. (R) **10.00** Inside Hollywood. **10.15** Andre Pieu Live in Dublin. (R) **11.15** Ultimate Emergency Bikers. (R) **12.15** Ice Road Truckers: Deadliest Roads. (R) **1.15** Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) **2.15** Film: A Christmas Visitor. (2002) Drama, starring Reagan Pasternak. **4.00** Film: Christmas with the Kranks. (2004) Festive comedy, starring Jamie Lee Curtis and Tim Allen. **5.50** 5 News Weekend. **5.55** Film: Wyatt Earp. (1994) Western, starring Kevin Costner.

**9.30** FILM: Superbad. (2007) Teen comedy, with Jonah Hill and Michael Cera. **11.50** FILM: South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut. (1999) Animated musical comedy, with the voices of Trey Parker and Matt Stone.

**1.25** SuperCasino. **4.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **4.15** Nick's Quest. (R) **4.40** Divine Designs. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

**ITV2**  
**3.40** The Xtra Factor **5.00** Peter Andre: My Life **6.00** Holiday Showdown **7.00** Four of a Kind **8.00** The World's Best Diet **9.00** Grimefighters **9.30** The Xtra Factor **10.45** The Amy Winehouse Story **11.45** Perez Hilton Superfan: Lady Gaga

**ITV3**  
**2.35** Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of Four **4.45** The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes **5.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** Lewis **11.05** Hornblower

**ITV4**  
**1.00** Live Darts. The PDC Players Championship Finals. **5.00** 20 Football Games That Shook the World **6.00** 20 Football Transfers That Shooked the World **7.00** Live Darts. The PDC Players Championship Finals. **11.00** Film: The Long Kiss Goodnight (1996)

**BBC THREE**  
**7.00** The Nearlyweds **8.00** The World's Strictest Parents **9.00** Gavin & Stacey **10.00** American Dad! **10.45** Family Guy **11.30** Him & Her

**BBC FOUR**  
**7.00** Churches: How to Read Them **7.30** Rosslyn Chapel: A Treasure in Stone **8.30** African Railway **9.30** Scrapheap Orchestra **11.00** Measures of Chinese Porcelain

**E4**  
**3.00** Make It or Break It **4.55** Sorority Girls **6.00** Scrubs **7.00** Film: Scrooged (1988) **9.00** Rude Tube: Mashed 'n' Mixed. A countdown of 50 internet video mash-ups. **10.00** Misfits **11.05** Tool Academy

**FILM4**  
**3.00** Brief Encounter (1945) Romantic drama, with Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard. **4.40** Princess Mononoke (1997) Animated fantasy adventure, with the voice of Yoji Matsuda. **7.20** Bride Wars (2008) 9.00 Knowing (2009) Mystery thriller, starring Nicolas Cage. **11.20** White Noise: The Light (2006)

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## Monday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Inside Out. BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 How to Survive the Meltdown - Panorama. 9.00 Young Apprentice. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.50 A Question of Sport. 11.00 Weather. 11.45 The Christmas Special. (R) 11.45 The Graham Norton Show. (R) 12.35 Weatherview. 12.40 Sign Zone: Who Do You Think You Are? (R) 1.40 World's Most Dangerous Roads. (R) 2.40 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 3.10 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.35 The Pink Panther Show. (R) 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Coast. (R) 1.15 Trash to Cash. 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 The Winner: Return of the Lost Boys of Sudan. 8.00 University Challenge. 9.30 MasterChef: The Professionals. 9.00 I Had the X Factor...25 Years Ago: A Wonderland Special. 10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Mark Zuckerberg: Inside Facebook. (R) 12.20 BBC News.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Countrywide Kitchen: Stocking the Winter Larder. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 The Real Thumbs Up. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: We Own the Night. (2007) Premiere. Crime drama, starring Joaquin Phoenix. 12.40 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 12.40 Champions League Weekly. 3.10 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Beery's Restoration Nightmare. (R) 10.55 Heston's Christmas Feast. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 1.00 Film: Bacon: The Return. (1988) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 River Cottage Christmas. 9.00 The Real Thumbs Up. 10.00 Christmas Dinner. 10.00 Chris Moyles' Quiz Night. 10.50 8 Out of 10 Cats: Best Bits. 11.40 Random Acts. 11.45 My Transsexual Summer. (R) 12.45 Little Noise Session. 1.15 Film: The Real Thumbs Up. (2009) Premiere. Biopic of poet Joseph Brodsky, starring Grigoriy Dilyatkovskiy. 3.30 We Need to Talk About Dad. (R) 4.25 St Elsewhere. (R) 5.15 Stephen Hawking's Universe. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News. Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.10 Film: Snowman's Pass. (2004) Action adventure, starring Nicole Eggert. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 How Do They Do It? (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 The Gadget Show; 5 News at 9. 9.00 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. 10.00 Film: Hard Luck. (2006) Thriller, starring Wesley Snipes. 11.55 The World of Stupid Criminals. 12.25 Impossible? 12.20 SuperCasino. 3.55 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 Grey's Anatomy. 4.55 Rough Guide to Bali for Your Buck. (R) 5.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.35 HouseBusters. (R)

## Tuesday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 2.45 Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers. (R) 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Holly City. 9.00 Death in Paradise. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.50 A Question of Sport. 11.00 Weather. 11.45 The Last Chapter? 11.40 Film: Heavenly Creatures. (1994) Fact-based drama, starring Kate Winslet. 1.15 Weatherview. 1.20 Sign Zone: Frozen Planet. (R) 2.20 The Story of Ireland. (R) 3.20 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 4.20 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.35 The Pink Panther Show. (R) 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Coast. (R) 1.15 Trash to Cash. 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 The Winner: Farm Christmas. (R) 8.00 Victorian Farm Christmas. (R) 8.00 MasterChef: The Professionals. The three finalists face their penultimate challenge. 9.00 Steve Jobs: Billion Dollar Hippy. The history of Steve Jobs' time in control at Apple. 10.00 Clear Dismissal. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Leonardo. (R) 12.20 The Company. (R) 1.55 BBC News. 4.20 Close.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Adventurer's Guide to Britain. 8.00 High Stakes. Big-money game show, hosted by Jeremy Kyle. Last in the series. 9.00 My Child's Not Perfect. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Rumor Has It. (2005) Romantic comedy, starring Jennifer Aniston and Kevin Costner. 12.20 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.55 Kojak. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Kirstie and Phil's Perfect Christmas. (R) 10.55 River Cottage Christmas. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 1.00 Film: Local Hero. (1983) Comedy drama, starring Peter Riegert. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 The Food Hospital. A 47-year-old man receives shocking news about his health. 9.00 My Child's Not Perfect. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Rumor Has It. (2005) Romantic comedy, starring Jennifer Aniston and Kevin Costner. 12.20 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.55 Kojak. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News. Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: Miami. (R) 3.10 Film: Noel. (2004) Drama, starring Susan Sarandon. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 How to Take Stunning Pictures; (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 London: The Inside Story. The inner workings of Westminster Council. Last in the series. 5 News at 9. 9.00 CSI: Miami. A businessman gets caught up in a murderous game. 10.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 11.00 CSI: Miami. (R) 11.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 1.00 SuperCasino. 3.50 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 The Gadget Show. (R) 4.55 County Secrets. (R)

## Wednesday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Inside Out. BBC News; Regional News. 8.30 The Impressions Show with Culshaw and Stephenson. 9.00 Motorway Corps. (R) 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.50 A Question of Sport. 11.00 Weather. 11.45 The Night Draws. 10.45 Would I Lie to You? (R) 11.15 Film 2011 with Claudia Winkleman; National Lottery Update. 11.55 Film: Westworld. (1973) Sci-fi thriller, starring Yul Brynner and Richard Benjamin. 12.00 Weatherview. 1.25 Sign Zone: See Hear. (R) 1.55 Country Tracks. (R) 2.55 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 3.55 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 Daily Politics. 1.00 See Hear. 1.30 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 The Winner: Victorian Farm Christmas. (R) 8.00 MasterChef: The Professionals. The three finalists face their penultimate challenge. 9.00 Steve Jobs: Billion Dollar Hippy. The history of Steve Jobs' time in control at Apple. 10.00 Clear Dismissal. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Leonardo. (R) 12.20 The Company. (R) 1.55 BBC News. 3.55 Close.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Royal Variety Performance. 2011. Peter Kay hosts the event at the Lowry in Salford Quays. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: American Dream. (1996) Comedy. 12.20 Drop Down Menu. 1.00 Film: Local Hero. (1983) Comedy drama, starring Peter Riegert. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 A SuperScrimpers Christmas. Tips on having a frugal but fun festive holiday. 9.00 Jamie's Christmas with Bells On. 10.00 This Is England '88. 11.10 The Joy of Teen Sex. 12.10 Random Acts. 12.15 Music on 4: Live from Abbey Road. 1.00 Music on 4: The Album Chart Show. Spotlight. 1.15 Music on 4: Koko Bo: Christmas Special. 1.40 Film: The Night Storm. (1982) Drama, starring Sigourney Weaver. 3.35 Stephen Hawking's Universe. (R) 5.25 Countdown. (R)

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Kirstie and Phil's Perfect Christmas. (R) 10.55 River Cottage Christmas. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 12.55 Film: Oliver Twist. (1948) Charles Dickens' drama, starring Alec Guinness. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Kevin's Grand Design. 9.00 Living with the Amish. 10.00 This Is England '88. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Black Mirror: The National Anthem. (R) 12.10 Music on 4: Alex Zane Pops Out. 12.45 Music on 4: Inputoutput. 1.00 Film: Faintheart. (2008) Premiere. Romantic comedy, starring Eddie Marsan and Jessica Hynes. 2.30 Southland. 3.15 Happy Endings. 3.40 Japan's Tsunami: Caught on Camera. (R) 4.55 Unreported World. (R) 5.20 Countdown. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.10 Mickey Mouse: Have a Laugh. 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News. Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: Farewell Mr Kringle. (2010) Premiere. Christmas drama, with Christine Taylor. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 Live UEFA Europa League Football. Fulham v Odense BK (Kick-off 8.05pm). 10.15 Film: Blood and Bone. (2009) 12.15 Poker: The Big Game. 1.15 SuperCasino. 4.00 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.10 HouseBusters. (R)

## Thursday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 The Manor Reborn. 9.00 Crimewatch. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.50 Crimewatch Update. 10.45 Up in Flames: Mr Reeves and the Riot. 11.00 This Week. 11.25 Skiing Weatherview. 12.20 Sign Zone: How to Survive the Meltdown - Panorama. (R) 12.50 Countryfile. (R) 1.45 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 2.45 Britain's Hidden Heritage. (R) 3.45 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.35 The Pink Panther Show. (R) 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Coast. (R) 1.15 Trash to Cash. 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 Victorian Farm Christmas. (R) 8.00 MasterChef: The Professionals. The winner of the 11th edition is announced. It last in the series. 9.00 Rev. Lay reader Nigel gets the chance to prove his worth. 9.30 Life's Too Short. Warwick throws a flat-warming party. 10.00 Frank Skinner's Opinionated. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Leonardo. (R) 12.20 The Company. (R) 1.55 BBC News.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Counting on Christmas: Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. Cain indicates he remembers who attacked him. 8.30 Coronation Street. Peter lies to Leanne before going to see Carla. 9.00 Without You. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Morgan's Life Stories: Peter Andre. (R) 11.35 A Night with Will Young. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.30 Counting on Christmas: Tonight. (R) 3.00 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Kirstie and Phil's Perfect Christmas. (R) 10.55 River Cottage Christmas. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 12.55 Film: Oliver Twist. (1948) Charles Dickens' drama, starring Alec Guinness. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Kevin's Grand Design. 9.00 Living with the Amish. 10.00 This Is England '88. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Black Mirror: The National Anthem. (R) 12.10 Music on 4: Alex Zane Pops Out. 12.45 Music on 4: Inputoutput. 1.00 Film: Faintheart. (2008) Premiere. Romantic comedy, starring Eddie Marsan and Jessica Hynes. 2.30 Southland. 3.15 Happy Endings. 3.40 Japan's Tsunami: Caught on Camera. (R) 4.55 Unreported World. (R) 5.20 Countdown. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.10 Mickey Mouse: Have a Laugh. 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News. Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.10 Film: The Christmas List. (1997) Fantasy drama, starring Mimi Rogers. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 Live NFL Football. 8.00 Fairground Attractions; 5 News at 9. 9.00 The Mentalist. 10.00 It's All About Amy. 11.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 12.00 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 4.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

## Friday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Rip Off Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Noise Squad. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; (R) BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 The Two Ronnies Sketchbook. 9.00 Have I Got News for You. 9.30 Live at the Apollo. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.50 A Question of Sport. 11.00 Weather. 11.45 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws. 11.30 Film: Millions. (2004) Comedy, starring Alex Eitel. 1.00 Weatherview. 1.05 Sign Zone: Fry's Planet Word. (R) 2.05 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 3.05 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.35 The Pink Panther Show. (R) 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Animal Park. (R) 1.30 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Coast. (R) 6.00 Celebrity Eggheads. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing - It Takes Two. 7.00 Victorian Farm Christmas. (R) 8.00 MasterChef: The Professionals. The winner of the 11th edition is announced. It last in the series. 9.00 Rev. Lay reader Nigel gets the chance to prove his worth. 9.30 Life's Too Short. Warwick throws a flat-warming party. 10.00 Frank Skinner's Opinionated. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Leonardo. (R) 12.20 The Company. (R) 1.55 BBC News.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 May the Best House Win. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 5.00 Best Dish: The Chels. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Wild Britain with Ray Mears. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 The Big Quiz - Coronation Street v Emmerdale. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Unforgiven. (1992) Western, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. 1.00 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Film: Columbus: Ashes to Ashes. (1998) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk and Patrick McGowan. 4.30 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.05 Sali Mali. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 9.55 Kirstie and Phil's Perfect Christmas. (R) 10.55 A SuperScrimpers Christmas. (R) 12.00 Drop Down Menu. 1.15 Film: Miracle on 34th Street. (1947) Christmas drama, starring Edmund Gwenn. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Come Dine with Me. 9.00 British Comedy Awards 2011. 11.10 Chris Moyles' Quiz Night. 11.55 Sean Lock: Lockpédia Live. (R) 1.00 Music on 4: The Crush. 1.55 Random Acts. 2.00 Comedy Land: The Warm-Up Guy. 2.25 My Name Is Earl. (R) 3.10 Happy Endings. 3.35 St Elsewhere. (R) 4.25 Brothers & Sisters. (R) 5.10 Countdown. (R) 5.55 Sali Mali. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.10 Mickey Mouse: Have a Laugh. 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News. Lunchtime. 12.15 Law & Order. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.20 Film: Santa Seeks Mrs Claus. (2004) Comedy, starring Christy Bernard. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 Live NFL Football. 8.00 Fairground Attractions; 5 News at 9. 9.00 The Mentalist. 10.00 It's All About Amy. 11.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 12.00 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 4.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

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**The top property guide for Dudley, Stourbridge, Halesowen and Kidderminster**



Number 12 The Village, Kingswinford, is a pretty 17th Century cottage set back beyond a walled front garden



An L-shaped lounge has a period style fireplace with cast iron inset, gas fire and a quarry tiled hearth

## Substantial 17th century cottage

A cottage dating back to the 17th century and overlooking the village green is for sale with a price tag of £284,950.

Located next to the former vicarage of St Mary's Church, the substantial double fronted detached period property – 12 The Village, Kingswinford – offers well proportioned family accommodation, including three double bedrooms.

It lies a short distance from the heart of Kingswinford with its wide selection of shops, restaurants and amenities, with excellent schooling within easy reach.

The property also benefits from having planning permission for a ground floor extension allowing an

additional reception room/bedroom plus shower room (potential annexe).

With gas central heating and double glazing, the property comprises of entrance hall, sitting room measuring 16ft 4in by 15ft 4in forming an L-shape with period style fireplace with cast iron inset living flame gas fire and quarry tiled projecting hearth.

### Breakfast

The refitted split-level family breakfast kitchen is 14ft 5in by 10ft 10in and is fitted with a range of 'Shaker' style units with work surfaces, one and a half bowl sink drainer unit with mixer tap, plumbing for dishwasher, integrated gas hob with cooker hood above, integrated oven and integrated fridge. Steps lead to the breakfast area with space for table and furniture.

The formal dining room/second sitting room features a cast iron

range, while the study is 9ft 1in by 5ft 6in. The utility room has plumbing for an automatic washing machine/dishwasher and cupboard storage space.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a large period-style bathroom with classic white suite including roll top tub bath, separate shower cubicle, pedestal wash basin and low-level flush WC.

Outside the cottage is set back beyond a walled front garden, with the driveway giving off-road parking and leading to the garage with double opening doors, which in turn leads to the guest cloakroom/WC.

The established rear garden has a broad paved patio area with steps to shaped lawns with central flower bed, apple tree and well-stocked borders, and also a summer house.

For further details or to arrange a viewing of this property call Taylors on 01384 401777.

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### CRADLEY HEATH, BARRS ROAD

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**£750 PCM**



### ROWLEY REGIS, SIDAWAY CLOSE

A much improved and extended detached house, set in a cul-de-sac location, comprises of: Three Bedrooms, Refitted Dining Kitchen, Modern Lounge, Separate Dining Area, Master with En-Suite, Refitted Bathroom, Driveway Parking for 3/4 Cars, Rear Garden

**£750 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, SANDERSON PLACE

Located in Hayley Green, is this unfurnished first floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Spacious Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Master with En-Suite, Bathroom and Parking Space. Viewing Highly Recommended.

**£650 PCM**



### MERRY HILL, MADISON AVENUE

An Unfurnished modern three storey townhouse within walking distance to Merry Hill, briefly comprising of: Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs wc, Three Bedrooms, Master En Suite, Lounge and Dining Room/Study, Allocated Parking Space

**£595 PCM**



### OLDBURY, WOODFIELD AVENUE

Been tastefully refurbished and beautifully presented is this semi detached house, briefly comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Driveway Parking, Rear Garden, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished

**£595 PCM**



### NETHERTON, PAINT CUP ROW

A refurbished two bedroom detached set in a cul-de-sac location, briefly comprising of: Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Two Bedrooms, Downstairs Bathroom, Gas Central Heating and Enclosed Garden. Viewing Essential

**£550 PCM**



### ROWLEY REGIS, THRONE ROAD

Located on a commutable road into Birmingham and close to the M5 J2, is this well presented unfurnished semi-detached home, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Large Through Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, House Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front and Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking

**£550 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, CLENT VIEW ROAD

Excellent value for money. An exceptionally spacious home in a very popular location close to local shops and bus routes to Merry Hill, Halesowen and Stourbridge. Close to Cooley Lane Primary School, briefly comprising of: Three Double Bedrooms, Through Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, House Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front and Rear Gardens, Unfurnished

**£550 PCM**



### CRADLEY HEATH, WYCHERLEY WAY

A modern and spacious well presented unfurnished two bedroom semi detached house, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Living Room, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Garage and Off Road Parking. Viewing Highly Recommended.

**£550 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, BETHESA GARDENS

Located on this new built estate is this modern ground floor apartment, coming unfurnished, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Master with En-Suite, Fitted Kitchen with White Goods, Open Plan Spacious Lounge, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Allocated Parking. A Must View Property

**£525 PCM**



### CRADLEY HEATH, SIDAWAY STREET

A superb unfurnished mid terrace property within walking distance to Old Hill town centre, with an internal inspection recommended, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Walk in Dressing Room, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen with Appliances and Utility Area, Bathroom with Shower Cubicle but NO BATH, Double Glazing, Electric Heating, On Road Parking, Low Maintenance Rear Garden

**£525 PCM**



### CRADLEY HEATH, MEADOW WALK

Being recently redecorated and on a quiet road, is this unfurnished semi detached house, comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Modern Downstairs Bathroom, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking.

**£499 PCM**



### OLDBURY, KELLNER GARDENS

A wonderful unfurnished second floor apartment in a quiet spot, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room Through to Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower Room, House Bathroom, Allocated Parking Space, Unfurnished

**£495 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, BEAUMONT ROAD

A part furnished 2 bed mid terrace home briefly comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen with Appliances, Downstairs Family Bathroom, Two Double Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing and Rear Garden.

**£495 PCM**



### ROWLEY REGIS, HABBERLEY ROAD

This lovely unfurnished mid terrace home is located close to local shops, and minutes away from J2 of the M5, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, House Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Rear Garden and Off Road Parking

**£475 PCM**



### CRADLEY HEATH, HIGHLAND ROAD

Value for money. This lovely furnished to suit end-terraced house, close to local shops and bus links briefly comprises of: Gas Central Heating, Spacious Living Room, Dining Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Master Bedroom with En-Suite, House Bathroom, Rear Garden and Driveway Parking

**£475 PCM**



### CRADLEY HEATH, KING STREET

Located in the heart of Old Hill, is this unfurnished first floor modern apartment, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Master Bedroom with En-Suite, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Double Glazing, Electric Storage Heating, Bathroom with Shower, Allocated Parking Space

**£475 PCM**



### ROWLEY REGIS, HIGHFIELD ROAD

This spacious and unfurnished terraced home has: Two Reception Rooms, Three Double Bedrooms - Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, On Road Parking

**£450 PCM**



### CRADLEY HEATH, UNITT DRIVE

Come on the market in this popular located apartment, close to Old Hill and local train station, is this unfurnished second floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Allocated Parking Space

**£450 PCM**



### DUDLEY, BEAN ROAD

A refurbished ground floor flat within easy reach of the town centre, briefly comprising of: Reception Hall with Minton Floor, Lounge, Double Bedroom, Fitted Kitchen, Shower Room, Double Glazing, and Communal Parking, Unfurnished

**£380 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, NETHEREND LANE

On this popular development, is this unfurnished first floor flat, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Garden, Garage, Unfurnished

**£380 PCM**



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**CHRONICLE** MOTORING Powered by **motors** .co.uk

# Proton offering winter check-up



Proton owners who sign up for the winter safety check will be entered into a £200 prize draw

AS THE long winter draws on in, now is the time to plan for difficult driving conditions which is why Proton Cars are offering customers a free winter check at its 75 dealerships across the UK.

The winter check offer, which is available from now until February 29, includes checking the antifreeze content and coolant level, tyre condition, tread depth and pressures, engine oil level, brake fluid and performance, power steering fluid level,

washer bottle contents and level, washer jet operation, wiper arms and blades condition and operation, operation of all external lights and the battery condition.

### Vouchers

It also includes a visual check for coolant leaks.

Motorists booking a winter check will also be entered into a prize draw to win £200 worth of John Lewis vouchers.

Simon Park, General Manager Sales and Marketing for Proton Cars

(UK) Ltd. said: "The safety of our customers is paramount year in, year out, but it's particularly important to ensure cars are winter-ready - especially given the hard winters we've had in the last couple of years."

"We would encourage all Proton owners to take advantage of the free winter check, so we can help them feel confident that their car is suitable for driving in wintry conditions."

To book a free winter check and be in with the chance of winning £200 worth of John Lewis vouchers call 0844 856 58 44.

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Models shown are for illustration purposes only. Officially priced available at an extra cost. Vehicles are unregistered and come with delivery miles. Offers subject to availability and status. Terms and conditions apply. Limited stock available. Cars must be registered by 30/11/2011. Also range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km): Satria Neo 1.6 GSX AT: urban 26.56 (10.6) extra urban 50.45 (5.6), combined 39.18 (7.4); CO2 emissions for range: lowest: Savvy CO2 134 g/km, highest Gen-2 CO2 184 g/km Metallic paint option at £365. Free servicing on Proton vehicles registered from 22nd September 2011 until 31st December 2011 available for the first owner only.



# Marque delivers another class act

IT WAS only a matter of time before Audi filled the gap in its ever-expanding array of products with a small vehicle.

Quite a few years ago now, the A2 was the smallest and while some commentators criticised its handling and looks, I still think that it is one of the brightest vehicles that Audi has produced.

If I was in the market for a second car an A2 would feature high on my list for its aluminium panels and low CO2 emissions. I think it will become collectable.

Audi has produced and launched the A1, effectively an entry to the already overcrowded supermini market. Think Mini, Citroen DS, Fiesta, Polo, which is the base for the Audi A1, and you find the boxes that Audi are trying to tick with this particular derivative.

It looks stylish, extremely desirable and, of course, with that famous four-ring badge proudly displayed on the front stating that I am an Audi and therefore a quality and aspirational brand, I can see success for the vehicle Audi is promoting as a premium hatchback.

## Superb

The interior, as you would expect, is high class. The build quality is superb and its refinement is very good. I am pleased to see that with the A1, Audi has been particularly generous with the level of equipment and this makes the A1 reasonable value for money, although in supermini categories it is expensive.

Models are generously equipped with alloy wheels, air conditioning and a stability control package as standard and this has to make them that bit more desirable.

There are huge comparisons between the A1 and the Mini; both are desirable brands, both are aspirational cars.

I like the fact that Audi has brought a small car to the marketplace and I like its "driveability".

The A1 starts at just over £15,000 on the road which you may think expensive. But do not forget that this is an Audi and market forces dictate that the company can put premium prices on all models.

There is a range of engines to choose from with 74.3mpg potential and low CO2 emissions in abundance; 99kg is the benchmark because that introduces free road tax.

## Remote

There are several other derivatives including a 1.6-litre turbo-diesel which produces 105kg and this makes for very low excise costs.

My 1.6-litre TDI had as standard a five-speed manual gearbox and did 0-60mph in just over 10 seconds. Where conditions and speed limits allow it would top out at 118mph.

Audi is following its conventions with the A1 and badging

them as SE, Sport and the top specification S-line. My vehicle had, in addition to the alloy wheels, remote locking and air conditioning, electric front windows and mirrors and a quite useful six-speaker audio system with the now almost compulsory auxiliary i-Pad connectivity feature.

During my time with the vehicle it was a pleasant companion. As a six-footer I found the driving position to be comfortable; the instrumentation following Audi's tradition is simple to understand and there is a quality feel to all the various knobs, switches and dials. The interior space was not over generous – four adults could travel for a reasonable journey in the vehicle – and rear headroom for me was not too much of a problem.

All in all Audi with the A1 will have yet another unqualified success on its hands and I envisage a healthy queue at the dealer.

Prices for the Audi A1 range from £15,615 to £20,540.



The A1 offers a high-class interior, superb build quality and a good level of refinement

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**JANE** 46, single mum, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380591

**NATALIE** attractive brown eyed girl 31yrs, likes romance, cosy nights in, keeping fit, WLMT similar energetic man for fun meets 40's-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380869

**KERRY** friendly 34yr old slim size 10 sophisticated female who know what she wants in life, seeking similar confident male for mutual spoiling and good times. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380863

**LYN** fun social lively lady not looking for anything too serious just someone fun, reliable and masculine. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380861

**ATTRACTIVE** 45yr old female, seeks genuine, attractive male, 38-48 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 388550

**LOUISA** looking for lovely, young male, 20-30's, easygoing for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380469

**CARLY** beautiful slim brunette looking for naughty mature male 50-70yrs for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376569

**SARAH** 38, slim, nice looking, tactile, no lies, WLMT kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378483

**HOME** alone with no one to call my own! 39yr old naughty girl looking for fun. Can travel. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363277

**JANE** 40's, blonde blue eyed petite build, with ties, WLMT understanding tall, caring man for daytime meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375141

**VERY** attractive 18yr old fitness instructor looking to burn some extra calories with older experienced male who thinks he can keep up, 30-60. ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364311

**MANDY** 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360317

**JOY** very hot fun loving 35yr old American female over on regular business, looking for English gent for mutually convenient friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378507

**29YR** old large black female looking for much older male, up to 70yrs, for naughty friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370017

**DIVORCED** very lovely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLMT similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370023

**KIRSTY** 36 attractive, blonde, seeking open-minded decent male for fun friendship, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370113

**PAULINE** attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379535

**SLIM** attractive lady with long auburn hair just wants to have a good time with likeminded older guy up to 75yrs. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368119

**I'M** attractive, very tactile with an hour-glass figure, looking for fun and good times. Can you help? Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368989

**SHARON** 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and WLMT male 45-55yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376565

**JENNY** blue eyed cuddly independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLMT older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378481

**YOUNG** looking attractive slim blonde, very lovely, WLMT nice guy for whatever life throws at us. No expectations. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370111

**ANNA** 29yr old nurse, elft curvy auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking older, well built male to look after, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375139

**SUZANNA** lonely beautiful classy French lady looking for happy decent reliable man for lots of TLC and good times. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375711

**28YR** old tall good looking and single, just looking for a bit of fun with spontaneity, open minded man. You won't be disappointed. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375137

**CAROL** petite brunette, 38yrs, romantic, affectionate, outgoing, seeks similar male for nice times together. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375713

**MAGGIE** young at heart 40's female, single, sincere and honest seeks romance with likeminded male to enjoy weekends away and more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379539

**LISA** 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a man who will appreciate a feminine, fashionable, fun, romantic woman with a mind of her own. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379537

**LITTLE** bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363428

**40'S** LaLaLa, lovely curves, solvent but lonely, seeks nice older male to pamper, enjoy fun and affection with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358135

**SHARON** 29 single mum of two, loves to live life to the full and will try anything once, seeking reliable male for cosy nights in. Any age/status. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380385

**30YR** old attractive confident business woman, frequently in area seeks older gent for mutual spoiling, pampering and fun. ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358137

**MIXED** race sassy lady, 38yrs, attractive and fun loving, looking for love and laughter without any strings, 30-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 372061

**FRAN** single confident brunette, OHAC, employed, loves cooking, cuddles, seeks Mr Christmas for mistletoe kisses and insinuating meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380387

**TRACY** attractive young blonde with great figure, likes nights in/out, looking for stimulating male for interesting meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380389

**HAVE** all the good ones gone? Here I am left on the shelf looking for fun, laughter, friendship and naughty liaisons! ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 372063

**DIONNE** 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, medium build, 42, single mum, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376801

**SLIM** 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 339373

**RACHEL** 38, slim, attractive, works full time, seeks sensitive, funny gent for friendship, companionship, hopefully relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375929

**PUSSEY** Galore seeking very own James Bond for romance. Janette 42yr, attractive, slim, leggy, cheeky extremely loving and single. ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375989

**CLARE** good looking, beautiful blonde, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378209

**FEMALE** looking for gent, 65-70, caring, loving and independent. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378295

**PATRICIA** 5ft 5ins, red hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals, clubs, seeking nice young man who is kind, generous to look after. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378207

**DAWN** attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, no ties, WLMT tall, fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375825

**LOUISE** 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLMT male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376165

**JANICE** attractive female, 50, size 12-14, seeks younger gent, 40-50 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376115

**MARIA** 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 329319

**KATHY** caring lady 60, medium build, smoker, seeks caring, smart male 55-65 for companionship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 374773

**MANDY** GSOH, like nights in/out, have all the good ones gone, here I am looking for fun, laughter, friendship, possible LTR with similar male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376149

**BIG** is beautiful Female looking for someone to share a life time of happiness with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368528

**ELAINE** kind, romantic, loving 43, seeks genuine male for relationship. Telford. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 374845

**JEAN** 71, fun loving Shropshire lady, seeks caring gent of similar age, GSOH, N/S for companionship/outings. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 373657

**SLIM** professional, attractive, amiable lady, 55, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH and enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356411

**LINDA** 70's, likes theatre, dancing, seeks nice gent for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 355891

**ATTRACTIVE** female, 45, slim, affectionate, intelligent, seeks honest, caring male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 301001

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**FARMER'S** granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLMT countryman/bachelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 387204

**POLLY** dark hair, 50, attractive, outgoing, seeks special outgoing male for days out etc. Telford. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 371127

**KIND** romantic female, 50, seeking a male to talk, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368429

**OPTIMISTIC** Shropshire lass, slim, gorgeous, seeks good looking gent, 40-50 with GSOH. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362033

**LOVING** caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364651

**BLACK** attractive female, 34, slim, N/S, seeks genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 367021

**WIDOWED** lady 70's, likes countryside, travel, seaside, seeks nice gent to spend time with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362993

**DIY** gardening, friendly geek required by friendly 55yr old attractive teacher, soulful lady to share sunny days and starlit nights in my hilltop cottage garden. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 365137

**BLONDE** tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 384852

**PROFESSIONAL** independent lady, 49, slim, blonde, attractive, varied interests, seeks intelligent, romantic, sincere, genuine male with GSOH for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359351

**CARING** and honest lady 61, 5ft 2ins, WLMT very caring and honest gentleman. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375985

**KIND** romantic, loving lady, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375751

**USE** attractive, slim, 50's, green eyes, varied interests, trendy, OHAC, seeks special guy. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 180567

**DO** you know what women want? 40yr old petite lady needs spoiling and lots of love by attractive male, 45-55. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 327573

**FEMALE** 51, slim, 5ft 4ins, genuine, caring, seeks suit for who is genuine and caring. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356761

**72YR** old widower, smart, likes travel, conversation, dancing, cooking, missing that special man in her life who is easygoing and N/S. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 349265

**SLIM** professional, attractive, amiable lady, 55, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH and enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356411

**LINDA** 70's, likes theatre, dancing, seeks nice gent for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 355891

**ATTRACTIVE** female, 45, slim, affectionate, intelligent, seeks honest, caring male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 301001

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**SHAPELY** attractive, light skinned black female, 39, seeks attractive, fit, male, 30's, builder type, tanned, rugged for relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 231152

**SLIM** attractive 44yr old female, N/S, no ties, likes travel, nights out, seeks male, 40-50 for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 341491

**BLACK** female, medium build, mother of two, WLMT lively gent, 34-40, N/S with GSOH for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 148702

**WENDY** dark hair/eyes, medium build, seeks male for friendship and see what happens. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361589

**LOVING** caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364651

**BLACK** attractive female, 34, slim, N/S, seeks genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 367021

**WIDOWED** lady 70's, likes countryside, travel, seaside, seeks nice gent to spend time with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362993

**DIY** gardening, friendly geek required by friendly 55yr old attractive teacher, soulful lady to share sunny days and starlit nights in my hilltop cottage garden. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 365137

**BLONDE** tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 384852

**PROFESSIONAL** independent lady, 49, slim, blonde, attractive, varied interests, seeks intelligent, romantic, sincere, genuine male with GSOH for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359351

**CARING** and honest lady 61, 5ft 2ins, WLMT very caring and honest gentleman. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375985

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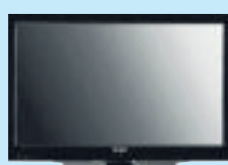


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# sport

## Bekker and bike eyeing the top flight



Byron Bekker in Heathens colours when riding as a guest last season.

Picture: Ian Charles

SOUTH African-born Byron Bekker will be mounted on Elite League machinery when he rides for Dudley Heathens next season.

Bekker has bought bikes from Dutch international Kees van den Broek to re-establish himself as one of the top riders in the National League.

He will start the season on a bargain 6.55 average after an injury-ravaged 2011 campaign with Belle

Vue. He said: "I'm serious about my career and I want to be on the best machinery I can possibly get my hands on."

"I've invested in equipment from Kees who is a very good rider and has a reputation for having good equipment, so I'm really looking forward to it."

"This is a fantastic move for me and I can't wait for the season to start. It's a dream come true to sign

for the biggest club in the league with all their supporters."

"I am helped in the pits and with sponsorship by people who are Cradley through-and-through, Andy and John Tibbets, and I think they are as pleased as me with this move."

"I wasn't settled at Belle Vue and my average dropped but I believe I have what it takes to propel myself into a number one position once again."

## Kings dethroned as Old Hales stay strong



Mark Rigby in action

### OHHC 2nd XI 2 Kings Heath 0

Old Halesonians Hockey 2nd XI put in a strong and confident performance to see off Kings Heath with a 2-0 win.

The win sees Hales move within touching distance of the promotion places, in what is the closest league in recent times, with just five points separating the top six teams.

Hales made a bright start but it was Kings Heath who threatened first, with Captain Steve Charlton forced into making a smart early save.

It was as close as Kings Heath would get though, as excellent performances by the Hales rearguard kept the Kings Heath attack at bay.

Simon Palmer marshalled the defence well, with Tom Bolton and Reise Thompson putting in fine performances.

Hales took the lead with a well worked penalty corner, with Palmer working the ball to Mark Rigby who slotted in his second of the season.

Hales continued to dominate proceedings, with their second arriving halfway through the second period.

Nick Truelove's cross field pass found the excellent run of Tom Bolton, whose pass found Nathan Kelly.

Kelly's shot/cross was tucked in at the far post by Ash Greaves to seal the win for the home side.

Hales kept it tight until the final whistle to record their first clean sheet of the season.

### Hampton-In-Arden 1 OHHC 3rd XI 2

OHHC 3rd XI managed to grind out an excellent result, winning away for the fourth time this season, against a young side with a lot of ability and energy.

Old Hales started lively and were quickly rewarded as Damian Shackleton continued his rich scoring form by converting from a quick self pass into the bottom left hand corner.

Hampton reacted well and an equaliser loomed if it hadn't been for a last ditch tackle by Nathan Whitehouse.

But you can only defend for so long against a strong side, and Hampton grabbed an equaliser in controversial circumstances following a penalty corner.

Hales thought they had taken the lead once again, but the penalty corner strike was disallowed.

But the visitors did find the winner when Deck Glaze surged down the right hand side, and passed a neat ball to Adam Hill who slapped the ball in from short range.

Hill was then yellow carded, leading to the Hales side defending hard and holding out for the 3 points.

### Kings Heath 2 OHHC Ladies 0

## Close score sees Hales run of form stretch to 5

Old Halesonians kept their run of form with a fifth consecutive win, this time with a close 25-27 away win at Burton RFC which was inspired by a return to form for winger Luke Smith and brothers Carl and Andy Robinson in the centre.

The visiting side always anticipated that this would be a hard-fought encounter with Burton having been relegated last season from above and so it proved.

The match started in an open and flowing nature which seemed to be the theme of the game. Hales took the kickoff which was returned by the home pack with gusto forcing their way into the Old Hales 22, however, good defensive work was rewarded with a turnover which led to Andy Robinson breaking from inside his own half and making good ground before feeding to winger Simon Sable who did well to finish.

The conversion was successful from Hooper which gave the visitors a 0-7 lead after only three minutes. Burton responded almost straight away with a penalty.

This was followed by a period of frenetic play by both sides which saw the ball being moved around the pitch as the teams battled for supremacy, but continuous whistles made it difficult for either side to maintain any momentum.

### Failed

Burton then took the lead approaching the 20 minute mark when Dave Archer went over for a well-worked try but he failed to convert leaving Old Halesonians trailing 8-7.

Hales had chances to redress the balance having worked into the opposition half by forcing a number of penalties but just could not quite breach the final defence and following a gathered kick Burton broke from their own half for an unconverted try for centre Lewis Brookes which was somewhat against the current run of play.

With five minutes to go until half time Hales were desperate not to go into the break 13-7 down and another Hooper penalty brought it to 13-10 before Carl Robinson scored.

The try came straight from the restart when Hales pressed forward eventually kicking through for Robinson to dot down. This was seen by some of the home fans as slightly controversial as they believed they had grounded the ball first but in reality, with Hooper's successful conversion, the 13-17 half time lead seemed fair.

### Outdone

Burton came straight out of the blocks with a second try for Brooks.

Hales weren't to be outdone with an excellently worked training move from the setpiece led to Luke Smith being put away in the corner. Players across the Hales side should take credit for the play which moved them to 18-22.

Constant pressure from Hales earned a further chance when, from a 22 dropout, the ball was collected, mauled and then spun wide for Smith to race through for his brace and extend the lead to 18-27.

The home side were by no means done and threw caution to the wind. Their attacking play was then rewarded with a further converted try which came a little too late to affect the overall 25-27 result.

Captain Rich Taylor, said "We are happy with another good performance and bonus point away win which keeps us third and in touch with the top two. Special mentions should go to the backline for their stand out performances." Next week Old Hales are at home to newly promoted Dunlop. Kickoff is 12.15pm.

# GAME OF ONE HALF AS YELTZ ARE SUNK

### HUNGERFORD TOWN 2 HALESOWEN TOWN 0

Halesowen were easily beaten by two first half goals as the early season pacesetters Hungerford returned to top form.

The Yeltz fell behind in the fifth minute when goalkeeper Paul Evans was deceived by Diak John's left wing cross and Mark Draycott stooped to head home from close range.

Six minutes later Halesowen registered what would be their only shot at goal of the half when Nathan Jones saw his clipped effort saved by Stuart Wood.

The hosts suffered a blow when Wood limped out of the game to be replaced between the sticks by Scott Griffin, but the Yeltz barely troubled the reverse goal-keeper for the rest of the afternoon.

Hungerford doubled their lead after 40 minutes when Luke Brewer picked up a loose ball from a corner kick and cracked home on the half-volley from the edge of the penalty area.

### Collected

After the break Michael McGrath struck a weak free-kick at Griffin and the home goalkeeper then collected a cross from Chilton as Halesowen looked to get back into the game.

Full back Scott Mason cleared off the line to deny Hungerford a third, before Andrew Westwood's cross was clawed out from his crossbar by Griffin at the other end.

But there was to be no way back into the game for the Yeltz with Hungerford finishing in the ascendancy in a match littered by interruptions for yellow cards.

Jamie Gosling's effort from the right was grabbed at the second attempt by Evans before Chris Blackford's 75th minute corner was cleared.

The Crusaders went close again when Hopper escaped from Brendan Kelly and saw his shot squirm from Evans' grasp, but James Loney cleared well with Draycott sliding in to meet the rebound.

With two minutes remaining, Jones set Chilton free but he was forced wide by Hungerford keeper Griffin and was then crowded out without any forward support to assist.

## Mixed fortunes for the Halas teams

### Boys League

#### Penn Colts 5 Halas East 0

The U9s East played a very good Penn side and although the first half was fairly even with only one goal separating the teams, Penn took advantage of Halas mistakes in the second half to win 5-0.

#### Legion Lions West 3 Halas Hawks West 0

The U9s travelled to Legion Lions West with a weakened team and despite a spirited performance, they went down 3-0. Man of the match went to Anthony Andreou.

#### CS Colts West 1 Halas Hawks East 1

The U10s East played CS Colts West and only the woodwork prevented them from taking the lead in the first half. The second half saw Halas take the lead through a fine strike from Rickio Fairin-Hall. Halas continued to press but couldn't find a second goal and CS equalised with a fine solo goal and the game ended all square. The man of the match award went to the whole team for a solid display.

#### Halesowen Town Colts 1

##### Halas Hawks West 1

The U11s West travelled to local rivals, Halesowen Town Colts, who took a first half lead but were prevented from scoring further by a strong display from the Halas defence,

in particular, goalkeeper, Nathan Kennings. Halas had a chance to equalize with a penalty, but this was saved before Jack MacFarlane gave Halas a deserved point in a 1-1 draw. A great match played by two evenly matched teams. Man of the match went to Harvey Rutter.

#### Kewford Central 1 Halas Hawks 1

The U11s also played out a 1-1 draw at Kewford Eagles with Matthew Evans getting the goal. Man of the match went to Dominic Lomas.

#### Halas Hawks 3 Warley Borough 4

The U13s squandered a three goal lead to lose a thrilling game 4-3 against a determined Warley side. Halas started well and were the better side and they raced into a three goal lead with two goals for Nathan Postin and one for Shane Billingham. Halas then took their foot off the pedal and let Warley back into it before half time by conceding twice. The second half was end to end but it was Warley who converted two more chances to take the points.

#### West Hagley 1 Halas Hawks 0

A close fought match for the U15s against West Hagley saw them unlucky not to find the net in a 1-0 defeat. Man of the Match went to Dillon Mullan for an outstanding

defensive performance.

#### Halas Hawks 5 Kewford Eagles 0

The U15s were always in control on the way to recording a 5-0 victory over Kewford Eagles. Mitchell Tomlinson grabbed the first with Josh March adding an impressive long range second. The goals continued to arrive in the second half with Jon Rizzo scoring an equally impressive 25 yarder and Dan Willetts again amongst the goals with two cool finishes after a great build up.

#### Halas Hawks 1 Perrywoods 2

In the U17s match against Perrywoods, Halas went 1-0 up through Mitch Wells to take the sting out the match only to concede a soft goal against the run of play just before half time. The second half was more Perrywoods, who stepped up the pace and deserved to take the lead and then narrowly held out to win 2-1.

#### Halas 2 Norton JFC 0

The U18s in third position in the league took on league leaders Norton at home. Adam Reece opened the scoring for Halas to take the lead into the half time break and they sealed a well deserved win with a goal from Joe Follis.

#### Girls League

No girls teams or Ladies matches played.

## Victory sees Tividale progress in Vase

### Carlsberg FA Vase 3rd round Replay BROCTON 1 TIVIDALE 2

In what was a suspense filled 90 minutes in atrocious conditions, but Tividale overcame Midland Combination Premier Side Brocton to progress through to the 4th round of the FA Vase.

In freezing temperatures at kick off, the returning Adam Simkins warmed the hands of the Brocton keeper Adam Whitehouse on six minutes with a stunning 30-yard drive that was acrobatically tipped over the bar.

Tividale was in full control at this point and on 13 minutes Adam Hill played in Chris Russell and as he closed in on the home goal he was brought down in the penalty area by Brocton defender Sam Fleming.

Russell got up to take the penalty, but his

shot went wide. As in the first game the penalty miss proved to be the catalyst to fire Brocton into life and on 30 minutes they had their first shot on target which caused Tividale keeper Tim Beech to turn away a David Berks shot.

Shortly afterwards the ever dangerous Gary Fire fired just over the bar. Tividale were at this stage on the back foot and the home side enjoyed their best spell of the game and on 39 minutes the pressure paid dividends when a Berks shot was again parried by Beech but this time Fire followed up to put Brocton ahead. Tividale responded positively and finished the half the stronger.

The second half opened brightly and five minutes in Tividale changed their formation and went three at the back to take advantage

of Brocton's one man up front and packed midfield formation.

However, despite enjoying the majority of the possession, they still could not make any headway against a well-disciplined home side and in poor conditions, neither team were able to hold on to the ball.

On 59 minutes Sam Bell shot over the bar. This turned out to be the lucky break that Tividale took full advantage of and on 70 minutes they were level.

Adam Hill tried his luck from 20 yards out and just as the impressive Whitehouse looked to gather the effort, the ball took a wicked deflection and left Whitehouse stranded as the ball hit the back of his net. Tividale now have a home 4th round tie against Binfield FC from Reading in the New Year.

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